FAYETTEVILLE OBSERVER.

VOL. XLVII.] FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH 6, 1865. [NO. 2492.

PRINTED EVERY MONDAY,
EDWARD J. HALE & SONS,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

At $15 00 for six months, paid in advance.
Price for the Semi-Weekly OBSERVER, $20 00 for six months.
Advertisements inserted for $3 per square of 10 lines or less for each publication.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

From and after this date, no name of a new subscriber will be entered without payment in advance, nor will the paper be sent to such subscribers for a longer time than is paid for.

Such of our old subscribers as desire to take the paper on this system will please notify us when making remittances.

Jan'y 1, 1858.

TO OUR ARMY.
FOR THE OBSERVER

It is mortifying, but lamentably true, that many of our people have grown despondent with the fear of subjugation, and their courage is "oozing out at their finger's ends;" while others are absorbed in devising subterfuges by which they hope to save their property and their precious persons in the general ruin inevitable upon our ultimate defeat—many of them the vile speculators who have made fortunes during the war. And these, although a small proportion of our population, added to the disloyal from the beginning, make up a party of *"tories,"* denominated so in 1777, and entitled to that appellation now. Did this discourage our patriot fathers, or relax their exertions to maintain the great principle of American liberty—the right of self-government? Verily not. Let the record speak, the historian says: "As the contest assumed a more serious aspect and became better understood, causes of irritation multiplied and real injuries were sustained, the number of those who were determined at every hazard to maintain the principle asserted by America greatly increased, but the party disaffected to this opposition assumed a more distinct form, and in every part of the Union appeared in greater force than had been at first apprehended. Many were found unwilling to encounter the danger and hazard of the contest and to be more disposed to admit the supremacy of the British Parliament and trust to their not abusing it, than to risk everything in order to maintain a principle not deemed by all of equal importance. These men were viewed with infinite contempt and detestation and denominated *tories*. In many places where their numbers were considerable, they manifested a disposition to take up arms. In North Carolina they collected in a very formidable body but were dispersed; and in New York similar dispositions were manifested, but they were subdued by Gen. Schuyler. *The conduct of the government to them was first truly lenient. Gen. Washington afterwards, however, pressed the adoption of such vigorous measures as would certainly disable the disaffected from practising the injuries they contemplated.* This was the state of the country prior to the Declaration of Independence. That necessary measure seemed to cut up by the roots every hope of conciliation; but still many hung to the hope that the British commanders, (Lord and Sir Wm. Howe,) who were said to bear the olive branch as well as the sword, possessed powers which might constitute a proper basis of negotiation. Where the previous measures of the central and local governments had been cordially and generally supported, the public mind was fully prepared for the Declaration. In New England, Virginia and a great part of South Carolina, scarcely a dissenting voice was raised against it. It was not only acceded to with alacrity when declared, but most ardently wished by all classes of people, and a clear disposition was manifested by all, and in some of them exercised even to precede Congress in making this declaration. From New York to Maryland inclusive the people were more divided. Great bodies of disaffected were found almost sufficient to neutralize such of those States as might be invaded. *In North Carolina a considerable majority was friendly to Independence, but in its bosom were powerful enemies ready to seize the first opportunity which might offer for the manifestation of their hostility. Georgia was weak and not united."* When our History is truthfully written, may it not be said that the tories of the first Revolution had conspicuous descendants in the tories of this. And how very remarkable—that the ancestor and progeny, separated by 90 years time, talked and acted alike under similar circumstances! Do not suppose, therefore, that some strange thing hath happened unto you. Let the result of this conflict teach the tories of 1865 the lesson taught their progenitors in 1776. And has not the time arrived when Gen. Washington's advice should be heeded "to adopt such vigorous measures as would certainly disable the disaffected from practicing the injuries they contemplate" I conclude in the language of an eminent patriot of 1776: "I firmly believe that we shall ultimately succeed, because I firmly believe that justice is with us." PUBLIUS

A few Important Facts
IN REGARD TO
THE "SOUTHERN HEPATIC PILLS."

1. THEY are prepared from the best quality of Medicine by the discoverer, now an aged Minister of the Gospel, and are safe.
2. They have been known for years and tested by thousands.
3. Five hundred persons are known to have been cured by them.
4. They are not recommended by the proprietor for everything, but only for diseases which arise from disordered livers.
5. Directions and certificates accompany each box and these certificates are from well known and most respectable individuals.
6. Correspondents recommend them as good for Liver Disease, Chills and Fevers, Pneumonia, Jaundice, Dyspepsia, Bilious Fevers, Bilious Rheumatism Worms, Pleurisy, Bronchitis, &c.
7. Several gentlemen state that the use of these Pills has been to them an annual saving of from $100 to $200; they are the best plantation medicine ever offered to the public.
8. Some Physicians of the highest standing prescribe them to their patients, and hundreds of boxes have been sold to regular practitioners.
9. During the last quarter 2,830 boxes have been sold to Druggists, one in South Carolina, and one in North Carolina—and some time ago over 3,700 boxes were ordered by Druggists in one town in Virginia.

☞ Price, $450 per gross, $50 per dozen, $5 per box.

For Sale in North Carolina as Follows:

Asheville, E J Aston,
Albemarle, J M Bivins,
Chapel Hill, R B Saunders,
Charlotte, J Nye Hutchinson,
" F S Carr,
Clinton, Hubbard & Moseley,
Concord, J Reid,
Enfield, J Cohen,
Hillsboro', J Y Whitted & Co,
Fayetteville, N A Stedman & Co
Greensboro', Porter & Gorrell,
Goldsboro', Lucas & Moore,
Halifax, J O'Brien,
Henderson, Wyche & Co,
Lexington, J F Stimson,
Address,
Lincolnton, S P Sherrill,
Louisburg, J Clifton,
Marion, W G Wakefield,
Pittsboro', J Long,
Raleigh, Williams & Haywood,
" F F Pescud,
Rockingham, J P Northam,
Salisbury, Henderson & Ennis,
" Burbank & Gallaghar,
Shelby, R Froneberger,
Wadesboro', W O Bennett,
Whiteville, K Haynes,
Wilmington, Walker Meares,
" H McLin,
" W H Lippitt,
GEORGE W DEMMS,
Goldsboro', N C.

July 18th, 1864. 52-tf

OBSERVER.
FAYETTEVILLE.
THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1865.

THE NEWS.—There is great anxiety, of course, to know what is the situation of things South of us at and near Cheraw. We regret that we have but little information to give. The mail from Cheraw comes but three times a week, and we have not learned of anything material being brought by couriers. Tuesday's mail brought a note stating that Sherman was reported at Lynch's creek, 22 miles from Cheraw. This morning a letter from a reliable source, written on Tuesday night, with a postscript yesterday morning, says, in substance, that about the most definite information I can get is that Sherman is in the vicinity with three army corps. They divided at Lynch's creek, one corps, the left wing, taking the Tiller's Ferry road towards this place, the others crossing lower down. Skirmishing has been going on to-day near Thompson's creek, about 4 miles from town. Prisoners are being brought in in small squads. Our cavalry have held the enemy in check to-day. Troops have gone out to reinforce those already at Thompson's creek.

The postscript written yesterday morning merely says: "Couriers going all night. Nothing further this morning."

What we hear of the amount of our forces at Cheraw, it would be improper to publish. So that in truth we can give our readers but little information in regard to prospects. We will say, however, that we pin our faith to Gen. Lee's conclusion, that "SHERMAN CAN BE, MUST BE AND WILL BE DEFEATED."

From Wilmington and that quarter we have nothing except the account of the fighting at Fort Anderson and its evacuation, the evacuation of Wilmington, &c., furnished by a correspondent in Hoke's army. There are rumors of a *mixed* ball in Wilmington, at which a Wilmington man and his daughters, (Northern people,) are said to have figured, and of some other personal matters; but they are merely rumors.

There have been reports of the appearance of the enemy at various places, White Hall, Elizabethtown, &c. &c.; but they are evidently false.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.—It is a very great relief to know that the Yankee General at Wilmington reconsidered his refusal to receive the thousands of Yankee prisoners who were tendered to him there, and finally consented to receive them for exchange. They had undoubtedly been great sufferers, and their condition excited the commiseration of those who most abhor the whole Yankee species. Their condition in the temporary prisons,—say at Florence, from which we suppose these came,—was bad enough; but when the approach of the enemy's army compelled their sudden removal to other places, that condition became much worse, because at Florence provision had been made for feeding and covering them, as far as it was in the power of the government to do so, whilst no such provision could be made at the points to which they were unexpectedly carried. It is a happy riddance, even, we are almost inclined to say, if the Yankees should again cheat us by refusing to send our prisoners after thus receiving their own.

There will doubtless be a great howl raised at the North when these people get back home. If their ragged and dirty and half-starved condition excited pity here among those whom they came to rob and to murder, what will it do there? They will see but one side of the matter. They will not choose to remember that these were invaders, guilty of every sort of insult and injury to the invaded people, their captors. They will not choose to remember that their own acts put it out of the power of the Confederate government and people to feed and clothe them adequately, for they have not only destroyed all public property wherever they went—which was admissible by the laws of war—but also destroyed private property along with it, which is contrary to the laws of war. It has been the enemy's avowed object, which they boast of having accomplished to the utmost, to deprive the Confederate people of food for themselves and their soldiers and even for their cattle. How then could they expect us to have food for such of them as fall into our hands? But worse than this: With a spirit that would do no discredit to the very devils in hell, after destroying or carrying off all the food of families, they have taken the pains to destroy the farming implements, to prevent if possible the raising of new crops for the subsistence of those whom they had thus stripped and beggared. Can they wonder that there was not sufficient food to satisfy their appetites? They left not enough for our own soldiers and women and children, all of whom are upon scant rations, and of course there was not enough for them.

The case is different in the United States. There is an abundance of food and clothing there. They not only produce an abundance, but have the whole world open to them also. It is base and unmanly in them to stint such of our soldiers as they capture. Yet it is notorious that they have stinted them, and further that they have generally in other ways so treated them as to force the conviction that they wished to kill them, or at least to ruin their health so that they could not again do duty as soldiers. They are thus murderers, in intent and in fact, as surely as if they had deliberately shot or stabbed one of our men because he was unarmed and in their power. In the view of God and man, upon their heads rests the blood of every Confederate who has perished by exposure or ill treatment or want in their prisons. They had the means to treat him humanely, and did not, and would not. They murdered him in cold blood.

Again we say, it is a happy thing to get rid of these yankees whom Lincoln has obliged us to hold so long, and who have suffered because their own inhumanity deprived us of the means of feeding and clothing them. But what joy to hope, that such of our own gallant men as have survived the cruelties of many weary months of almost hopeless imprisonment, will soon be restored to the embraces of the dear ones at home! In forty thousand families in the Confederacy there are hundreds of thousands of hearts of wives and children, mothers and fathers, which bound at the prospect of such a meeting once more.

The effect of the exchange upon the relative strength of the opposing armies will be great. Whilst the time of service of most of the yankees has expired, and they will not come back into the army if they can avoid it, every exchanged Confederate who brings back vigor enough for the field, will soon be under arms again, to swell the ranks of Lee or Johnston, and determined to avenge the wrongs he suffered whilst a prisoner. Their influence upon the present campaign it is impossible to estimate. It may be decisive. May Heaven grant that it shall be.

"TIRED OF THE WAR".—Who is not tired of the war? It is not possible to conceive of any one, either in the Confederacy or out of it, who is not anxious for the close of this desolating war, and who does not pray daily and hourly, that God would in his mercy stay the hand of the destroyer, and once more bless the land with Peace. Demagogues and fools may prate of the speculator's gains, of the chieftain's desire of fame, or of the ruler's ambition, as motives urging them or any of them to entertain a desire for the prolongation of the war; but the idea is utterly inadmissible. If really entertained by those who advance it, it only shows that their own hearts are corrupt.

There is but one way to secure peace; and that is, *to conquer it.* Let the Confederacy but establish its Independence, and there will be indeed what we all pray for, "a *lasting* Peace:" not otherwise. We shall not be a Power of such magnitude among the nations as to make us hasty to give or to take offence. The horrors of this war will live in the memories of generations to come as a wholesome warning against re-opening the gates of Janus. If the dead, who made themselves only the more dear to their countrymen because they died gloriously in defence of their country and its rights, could be forgotten; if the sleeveless arms and the wooden legs should all, as they will in time, disappear from our midst; and if the favored of Heaven, who passed through a hundred battles unharmed, should

"Sink to rest
With all their country's honors blest;"

there will still be enough in tradition and history, and in the ever present debt and taxes entailed by this giant war, to serve as a beacon to warn us against future wars.

Not so with the United States, and emphatically not so with the United States if the Confederate States were unfortunately re-united to her. It is our belief that this present war was permitted in part to prevent that giant power from becoming a scourge to the world. Inflated with self conceit beyond any people under the sun: powerful beyond any nation of such brief duration, and arrogant beyond any from a sense of that power, the United States was inclined to dictate to "a world in arms," and had really come to believe, or at least to boast, that they "could whip that world in arms." The amazing capacity for war which they have shown during the past four years, makes it necessary that the Confederacy shall be free, to restrain the arrogance and ambition of the United States. Re-united, and inspired with ten-fold more, if possible, of the natural and boastful conceit of the yankees, there would be no keeping the peace of the world. In the confident expectation of conquering the Confederacy, the United States are but suspending two other wars which they do not hesitate to avow their determination to enter upon—wars with two of the most warlike and powerful nations of the earth; wars of ambition, and conquest, which Seward did not hesitate to admit to our Peace Commissioners that he expected to occur.

We must "*conquer* a Peace," or we shall be engaged in those wars. It is idle for any man who is "tired of the war" to hope for peace in any other way or on any other terms. Submit to the Yankees; allow them to subjugate us; re-unite with them upon any terms, even if they would consent to terms, which they will not;—none of these would bring Peace. They would bring new wars—wars in which we have no interest and for which we have no inclination, and yet wars in which we should be compelled to fight. Most probably, instead of being under our own chosen officers, selected from amongst ourselves and sympathizing with us, we should be divided in Yankee regiments; have Yankee officers put over us, to domineer with hateful tyranny over a subjugated and inferior people. We can imagine the condition of the Confederate soldier in the Yankee army—a subjugated Confederate soldier, drafted into the service to fight in a war in which he has no concern, and under officers whom he hates and who despise and hate him. Subjected to every indignity and injury in camp, in battle he will be put in the front, as the negroes now are, to save the carcasses of the Yankees from harm. And he will have the sad consciousness that he deserves his fate, for he might have been free and would not.

These views may not be new to our readers, but they are none the less important. We submit that they are true; that it is a miserable delusion to suppose that re-union with the Yankees would bring peace. How infinitely better, on the contrary,—how infinitely more safe and honorable—to fight out *this* war for our own rights and property, rather than lend ourselves to the Yankees to fight *their* wars with England and France and the rest of "the world in arms." Success in this war will be *our* success, *our* safety, *our* honor, *our* Independence. Success or defeat in the Yankee wars would but enure to their benefit and glory and to our degradation and oppression.

FROM GEN. WHITING AND MAJ. HILL.—Letters from these gallant officers to their families, dated Governor's Island, Feb'y 10th, came to our care this morning, which we know not how to forward, and therefore state that Gen. Whiting writes that he is very weak but doing well; wounds slowly improving; had been treated with great kindness; it will be a long time before he can walk.

Maj. Hill writes that he is well, and hoping for the speedy exchange of all prisoners.

THE OUTRAGES IN ROBESON.—By a friend from Lumberton we learn that the robberies in that county, of which some account was given by a correspondent in our last, still continue. On Monday night several prominent citizens and one widow lady were robbed. It should be stated that the gang of robbers consists almost exclusively of yankees who escaped from the prison at Florence, or since they left there. It is believed that there are but two or three Confederate deserters leagued with them. And we are sorry to hear that numbers of such escaped prisoners have been seen in other localities. The only hope of putting a stop to these outrages is to do as the loyal men of Wilkes county lately did. They armed, combined, marched against the robbers, killed and wounded some, and drove off the remainder. The fear of being waylaid or burnt out prevents some from taking such efficient steps. But it is the only safe course.

AN INCIDENT FROM HISTORY.—The failures of the mails enable us to copy Macaulay's account of the siege of Londonderry, one of the most remarkable events in history, and one well calculated to inspire our people with hope and confidence of triumph, if we will only be united and true to ourselves.

In the preceding part of the chapter from which we copy, is an account of the efforts of Lundy, the Governor of Londonderry, to discourage the people. He was a regular croaker, as bad as any would-be Governor who has disgraced this Confederacy. He was in secret communication with the enemy. Some charged that he had affected to be against the enemy only that he might the more effectually aid him. Others attributed his dastardly conduct to faintheartedness and poverty of spirit. He had sworn fealty to his rightful sovereign, just as somb people in this Confederacy signed the Ordinance of Secession and pledged "the last dollar and the last man" to maintain that act. Lundy wished the inhabitants to "try to make good terms for themselves," he himself meaning to "withdraw privately." He sent a private messenger to the enemy with assurances that the city should be peaceably surrendered on the first summons. We wonder if any such message has gone to the enemy from North Carolina? When Lundy's conduct became known, the spirit of soldiers and people swelled up high and fierce against the dastard; they threatened to shoot or hang him. He hid himself during the day and ran off to the enemy at night. His name is to this day held in execration in the North of Ireland, where his effigy is still annually hanged and burned.

After the traitor ran away, King James sent a flag of truce who made large promises to induce the garrison to surrender. He was more liberal than Lincoln, "offering a free pardon for all that was past if they would submit" and Murray, who was sent out of the city to meet the flag, was offered "a colonel's commission and a thousand poundsin money." What was the reply of the noble Murray? "The men of Londonderry," said he, "have done nothing that requires a pardon, and own no sovereign but King William and Queen Mary. It will not be safe for your Lordship to stay longer, or to return on the same errand. Let me have the honor of seeing you through the lines."

Glorious Murray! glorious people who maintained his pledge, though it did not require "the last dollar and the last man" to do that, and to triumph!

CAPT. BEADDY.—The following is just at hand:—

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Richmond, Va., Feb'y 23, 1865.

Messrs. E. J. Hale & Sons: I have just received from Capt. K. J. Braddy, 36th Reg't N. C. T., a letter dated Feb'y 5, 1865, and written from Fort Columbus, New York, from which I make the following extracts:

"I understand it has been published in one of the Raleigh papers that the fall of Fort Fisher was caused by the surrender of the sallyport by me. I will thank you to put a card in the Observer, and request other State papers to copy, branding this statement as an infamous falsehood. All of my captured command will testify that I had nothing to do with the sallyport; and that I was one of the last to surrender. Of the thirty-six men I had, acting as infantry, twenty were killed and wounded. This statement must have been made by some coward, who sneaked off before the fight was over. There was a white flag discovered at the sallyport and I was ordered by Maj. Reily to take another and see what it meant; I did so, found it was raised by some of our men, went back and reported the fact."

In vindication of the character of an absent man, whom past three years, I respectfully ask that you will give this card prominent insertion in your paper.

Capt. B. adds "the health of all is improving—we suffer very much on account of change of climate."

Very respectfully, THOS. C. FULLER.

AN OUTRAGE DEMANDING REVENGE.—The execution of Capt. Beall, of the Confederate States Army, calls for prompt retaliation. He was convicted as a spy and one of the Lake Erie "pirates."

BRING IN YOUR PRODUCE.—We are glad to publish the annexed notice, showing that wagons and carts may come to town without fear of being impressed:—

For the information of persons bringing provisions to market for sale, on arrival they are hereby notified that no impressments of such wagons and carts will be made; and that persons are requested to send in their provisions.

J. B. SOUTHERLAND,
Purchaser and Impressing Ag't,
4th Cong. Dist.

Fayetteville, March 1, 1865.

NEGRO TROOPS—LETTER FROM GEN. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS C. S. ARMIES,
18th February, 1865.

Hon. E. Barksdale, House of Representatives, Richmond:

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, with reference to the employment of negroes as soldiers. I think the measure not only expedient, but necessary. The enemy will certainly use them against us if he can get possession of them, and as his present numerical superiority will enable him to penetrate many parts of the country, I cannot see the wisdom of the policy of holding them to await his arrival, when we may, by timely action and judicious management, use them to arrest his progress. I do not think that our white population can supply the necessities of a long war, without overtaxing its capacity and imposing great suffering upon our people; and I believe we should provide resources for a protracted struggle, not merely for a battle or a campaign.

In answer to your second question, I can only say that, in my opinion, the negroes, under proper circumstances, will make efficient soldiers. I think we could do as well with them as the enemy, and he attaches great importance to their assistance. Under good officers and good instruction, I do not see why they should not become soldiers. They possess all the physical qualifications, and their habits of obedience constitute a good foundation for discipline. They furnish a more promising material than many armies of which we read in history, which owed their efficiency to discipline alone. I think those who are employed should be freed. It would be neither just nor wise, in my opinion, to require them to serve as slaves. The best course to pursue, it seems to me, would be to call for such as are willing to come with the consent of their owners. An impressment or draft would not be likely to bring out the best class, and the use of coercion would make the measure distasteful to them and to their owners.

I have no doubt that if Congress would authorize their reception into service, and empower the President to call upon individuals or States for such as they are willing to contribute, with the condition of emancipation to all enrolled, a sufficient number would be forthcoming to enable us to try the experiment. If it prove successful, most of the objections to the measure would disappear, and if individuals still remained unwilling to send their negroes to the army, the force of public opinion in the States would soon bring about such legislation as would remove all obstacles. I think the matter should be left as far as possible to the people and to the States, which alone can legislate as the necessities of this particular service may require. As to the mode of organizing them it should be left as free from restraint as possible. Experience will suggest the best course, and it would be inexpedient to trammel the subject with provisions that might in the end, prevent the adoption of reforms suggested by actual trial.

With great respect, your ob't servant,
R. E. LEE, General.

BY TELEGRAPH.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Congress.—RICHMOND, Feb. 27.—The House, in secret session, has passed the bill authorizing the employment of negro troops, by a vote of yeas 40, nays 37. The bill authorizes the President to ask for and accept from the owners of slaves the services of such number of able-bodied negro men as he may deem expedient, for and during the war, to perform military service in whatever capacity he may desire. If a sufficient number of troops are not raised by this call, the President may call upon each State for its quota of the whole number, 300,000. Nothing in the act is to be construed to authorize any change in the relation which slaves shall bear to their owners as property, except by consent of such owners, and of the States in which they may reside. Nothing of importance was done in the Senate to-day. The House passed the Senate bill establishing the flag of the Confederate States; also, the House bill providing for payment for horses killed or lost in service; also, the House bill abolishing the elective system in filling vacancies occurring in the several grades of commissioned officers in the army. This bill provides for nominations and assignments when the nominations are approved by the Generals commanding. A resolution expelling Foote was unanimously adopted.

RICHMOND, Feb'y 28.—The Senate to-day passed a bill to continue in force until July 1866, the act to increase the compensation of non-commissioned officers and privates in the army of the Confederate States. The House bill levying additional tax for 1865, was reported back from the committee of finance with numerous amendments. A minority report has been submitted. In the House, the exemption bill was referred to a committee of conference. The Senate bill abolishing the office of Provost Marshal except within the limits of the armies, was amended and passed. The Senate bill requiring male refugees to perform military duty in the reserve forces passed. The Senate bill authorizing the Sec'y of War to negotiate with the Governors of the several States for the employment of slave labor with the armies to work upon fortifications, &c., was amended and passed; yeas 45, nays 39.

RICHMOND, March 1.—The Senate to-day passed the bill authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to receive specie from the several States and use the same for their benefit; concurred in the report of the Committee of conference on the Currency bill; and also in the House amendment to the Senate bill authorizing the Secretary of War to negotiate with the several State Governments for slave labor. In the House, Mr. J. T. Leach submitted resolutions recommending that Gen. Lee be clothed with power to treat for Peace, which were referred to the Military Committee. The House then went into secret session, after which the bill providing for payment for cotton purchased in Trans-Mississippi by Gov't agents was discussed until adjournment.

From the United States—RICHMOND, Feb. 28—U. S. papers of the 25th say that Capt. Beal, the Confederate guerrilla, was hung at Governor's island on Friday afternoon. His last words were: "I protest against the execution of the sentence; it is absolute murder—brutal murder. I die in the defence and service of my country."

An official telegram relative to the capture of Wilmington, claims that 700 prisoners and 30 guns were captured. Citizens state that the rebels burned 1000 bales of cotton and 15,000 barrels of rosin. The Union feeling showed itself quite strongly in the city. Terry followed the retreating rebels Northward.

There was intense excitement at Knoxville on the 22d, owing to the report that Longstreet's command was moving on the place.

A special Washington telegram to the Daily N. Hughes, asserts that the visit of Singleton and and has no political significance whatever.

In discussing the fortification bill, on Friday, Reverdy Johnson stated that if the war continued two years longer, it was by no means certain that we should not have a foreign war. Advices from France, both public and private, he said, indicated the purpose of the Emperor to recognise the Confederate States within a reasonable period.

Canby will move from Pensacola to co-operate with Thomas. Recruiting is very active in Ohio.

No Yankee News.—RICHMOND, March 1.—The New York Herald of Monday last, 27th ult., has been received, but contains nothing of interest.

Arrival of another Peace Negotiator.—RICHMOND, March 1.—Gen. Singleton [Illinois Peace Democrat] arrived here last night and took lodgings at the Spotswood Hotel.

NEWS BY THIS MORNING'S MAIL.

The Northern mail, in this morning at 9 o'clock, five hours behind time, brings us the Raleigh papers of yesterday, a Charlotte paper of last Saturday, a Salisbury paper of Tuesday, the Richmond Sentinel of the 22d, and the Whig of the 22d, 23d, 24th and 25th, the only Richmond papers received for several days. The news, which we annex, is interesting and encouraging, showing several handsome Confederate successes in Virginia and Tennessee.

Bold Exploit—The Yankee Generals Crook and Kelly captured in one of the Enemy's Strongholds without firing a gun—Well done McNeil!—The following interesting official telegram, says the Richmond Whig of 25th, was received at the War Department last night:

HEADQUARTERS, Feb. 24th, 1865.

Hon. J. C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War:—Gen. Early reports that Lieut. McNeil, with thirty men, on the morning of the 21st, entered Cumberland, captured and brought out Generals Crook and Kelly, the Adjutant General of the Department, two privates and the headquarters flag, without firing a gun, though a considerable force is stationed in the vicinity.

Lieut. McNeil and party deserve much credit for this bold exploit.

Their prisoners will reach Staunton to-day.

R. E LEE.

Another Account.—The following telegram to the Whig was received just before going to press:

HARRISONBURG, Feb. 24.—Maj. Gens. B. F. Kelley and Geo. Crook, and Major Thayer Melvin, of Gen. Crook's staff, are here, en route for Richmond.

They were captured in Cumberland, Md., last Tuesday morning at 3 o'clock, by Lieut. Jesse McNiel and forty-five of his men, and fifteen of Gen. Rosser's furloughed men.

They will reach your city by the cars on the Central railroad to-morrow.

From Tennessee.—McNeil, the gallant partizan of the Valley, says the Richmond Whig of the 25th, by his audacious dash into Cumberland, on the 21st, resulting in the capture of two yankee Generals, opened the prelude to the spring campaign. Vaughn's Cavalry, in East Tennessee, follows suit and thereby gives assurance that the army of South Western Virginia never intends to tire in the good work while a yankee treads the soil of the South, as will be seen from the following official dispatch:

HEADQUARTERS, ETC., Feb. 29.

Hon. J. C. Breckinridge, Sec'y of War:

General Echols reports that detachments of Vaughan's Cavalry struck the railroad beyond Knoxville, at Sweet Water and Athens, capturing the garrison, our horses places.

Sixty men of the 2d Ohio Regiment and equipments, were taken.

R. E. LEE.

—The following official *Mosby's Men*—Richmond Whig of the 24th, was dispatch, as night at the War Department:

recd: John C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War:—Major A. E. Richards, of Mosby's right, reports that on the 18th inst., with 38 men, he attacked a party of the enemy, 120 strong, of whom he killed and wounded 25. Among the wounded were a Major and a Captain. He captured 64 prisoners and 90 horses. He had one man slightly wounded. R. E. Lee.

From Europe.—Important Action of the French Government.—NEW YORK, Feb'y 21.—The China arrived this evening, from Liverpool on the 11th, via Queenstown on the 12th

The London Globe's Paris correspondent says:

"No French Minister at Washington will be appointed until the late Wm. Dayton's post is filled by the bearer of satisfactory instructions respecting the threats made against Mexico."

The London Times' Paris correspondent says:

"When the French Minister, Count Mercier, was recalled from Washington, the Americans were led to understand that no new agent would be accredited until President Lincoln should have recognised the Emperor of Mexico. This recognition has not been forthcoming, and there is no French Minister at Washington." The writer adds: "It is believed that Mr. Bigelow will continue to act as United States *Charge d' Affaires* in Paris for some time."

In the House of Commons, on the 8th inst., Sir J. Elphinstone expressed his regret at the absence in the Queen's speech of any allusion to the state of the public service. He said: Our relations with America are not in a satisfactory state, and in the event of war England was not in the position to afford adequate protection to commerce. He intended, on an early day, to call attention to the state of the navy.

Negro Troops—A gentleman, now a resident of this city, formerly of Kentucky, proposes to put his able-bodied men slaves at the disposal of Gen. Lee. He thus gives unmistakable evidence of his patriotism. Not only so, but he intends to comfortably equip each man, and furnish him liberally with money to secure comforts in camp.—*Richmond Sentinel*

Returned Negroes.—Among the lately returned prisoners were five negroes, who resisted all solicitations to join the enemy or to take the oath. One of these, named Dick, of Petersburg, was quite a character. The yankees often engaged him in conversation, but Dick was a match for them at all points. He told them he was formerly a Union man of the John Minor Botts school; but that day was past with him now. He had been in favor of the Union as *it was*, and not as the yankees propose to make it. Dick has been a prisoner since the battle of Gettysburg.—*Ib.*

Yankee Items.—On the 21st, Stanton announced the receipt of news at the War Department of the occupation of Charleston on the 18th, with 200 pieces of artillery and a lot of ammunition. The cotton, warehouses, arsenals, quartermaster's stores, railroad bridges, two iron-clads, and some vessels in the shipyard, had been burned before the evacuation. The appearance of the city—the lower part uninhabitable and the upper part in flames—is described as dreary and desolate in the extreme.

Savannah.—There is no news at Savannah. Affairs are quiet there, and likely to remain so. The loyal feeling develops itself so slowly that it cannot be detected.

Capt. Beall.—The New York World of the 22d says the Hon. James T. Brady had an interview with Capt. Beall before the news of his respite was received, and in an address made by the former on Saturday evening, he described Capt. Beall as entirely unmoved. After taking his hand and bidding him farewell, he turned back, as if he had forgotten something, and asked him if he (Beall) would favor him with the address of his mother, in order that he might communicate with her. He watched him keenly, but he saw no tremulousness of the fingers, no twitching of the nerves, and no emotion. But he ment of mankind and nothing for the punishment I have to suffer, because I know my mother thinks her son is right, and my sister will honor my memory." It is understood that the respite was granted for the purpose of allowing Beall's mother to see him.

Reported Raid towards Staunton.—RICHMOND, March 1.—Taree brigades of Yankee cavalry are reported moving on Staunton this forenoon.

The French and the Yankees—The New Orleans Times, quoted by yankee papers of the 24th, says that the French, at Matamoras, complimented the Confederate flag, and passed the yankee colors with contempt.

DIED,

In Fayetteville, at 2 o'clock A. M. on the 1st of March, of bronchial disease, Hon. ELI W. HALL, former Senator from New Hanover county, aged 38 years and 2 days.

In this vicinity, on the 22d Feb'y, ROSALIE, daughter of J. W. and C. Reynolds, aged 2 years and 3 months.

TERMS OF THE OBSERVER.—We still receive letters enclosing $15 for *a year's* subscription to the Weekly and $20 for *a year's* subscription to the Semi-Weekly Observer. We repeat, therefore, that

We take subscriptions for no longer a period than 6 months; and that

The price of the Weekly paper is $15 for 6 months;

The price of the Semi-Weekly $20 for 6 months.

Feb'y 23, 1865.

SOUTHERN PUBLICATIONS.
BRANSON & FARRAR,
RALEIGH, N. C.

FIRST DIXIE PRIMER, 3d Edition, edited especially to the Dixie Children (by a Southern Matron, Mrs M B Moore, N C) Price (per hundred $50) $1.

FIRST DIXIE READER, comprising easy reading lessons, to succeed the Primer. By Mrs M B Moore. Price, $1.

THE DIXIE ELEMENTARY SPELLING BOOK, most carefully arranged and adapted for Southern Schools By Mrs. M. B Moore. Price $3.

THE PRIMARY GEOGRAPHY, with Maps, entirely new and popular. By Mrs. M B Moore Price, 4 50

JOHNSON'S COMMON SCHOOL ARITHMETIC, just from the press and in great demand By Prof. L Johnson, of Trinity College Price, $4 5

FIRST BOOK IN COMPOSITION to precede English Grammar containing a variety of pleasant writing exercises for the student. By L Branson, A. M. Price, 4 50

YORK'S ENGLISH GRAMMAR, Third Edition, illustrated by diagrams, entirely a Southern work and one of the best in use, by a devoted Teacher. Price, 4 50

HILL'S POEMS, pronounced by the best critics to be "true and genuine Poetry." By Thos. H Hill. Price, 5 00.

MORVEN AND LINDA, a tale of a soldier's faithful love. By A. W Mangum. Price, 50 cts

MYRTLE LEAVES, a Book for the times, by Rev. A. W. Mangum, is full of fine thought, set in beautiful prose and poetry. Price, 3 00

HISTORICAL SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS, for Sabbath Schools and the Camp. Price, (per hundred $50) 1 00 "It is decidedly the best work I have met on the subject. It gives the student a familiarity by a Bible History." W J. W. Cross, patriots Price ($50

SONGS OF LOVE and
North Carolina Lad SONGSTER, choice selections, by per hundred, Anson, late of Gen Lee's army Price, JACK, hundred) 1 00

☞ A full assortment of Music is kept on hand at all times

Music and Book Catalogues sent gratis.

☞ Those ordering goods to be sent per mail, must remit 10 cents extra on the dollar to pay postage.

The usual deduction made to the Trade.

BRANSON & FARRAR,
Raleigh, N. C.
12-tf

Feb'y 22.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Fellow Citizens: The necessities of our country, as represented by our Confederate authorities, impel me again to appeal to your generosity.

You are aware, that in consequence of interruption to our railroad communications by recent movements of the enemy, the subsistence of Gen Lee's army has become greatly jeopardized. For at least a few months that army will have to rely for subsistence upon North Carolina and Virginia alone I am informed by the Commissary department, that the usual methods of collecting supplies will be insufficient for the purpose.

In reference to this point, I need only cite the authority of General Lee himself, who writes as follows in regard to a similar appeal to the people of Virginia:

"I cannot permit myself to doubt that the people will respond to it, when they reflect upon the alternative presented to them. They have simply to choose whether they will contribute such commissary and quartermaster stores as they can possibly spare to support an army which has already borne and done so much in their behalf, or retaining their stores maintain the army of the enemy engaged in their subjugation. I am aware, that a general obligation of this nature, rests lightly on most men—each being disposed to leave his discharge to his neighbor—but I am confident that our citizens will appreciate their responsibility in the case, and will not permit an army, which, by God's blessing and their patriotic support, has hitherto resisted the efforts of the enemy, to suffer now through their neglect."

It seems, therefore, that our all depends upon the voluntary action of the people of North Carolina and Virginia; and trusting that whatever you have to spare, will be promptly and patriotically brought forward for the use of your country, in its hour of trial—the following plan is submitted, which is being acted upon in the State of Virginia with the best results It is understood also, that provisions will be received either as sales, loans or donations.

1st. Let every citizen who can, pledge himself to furnish the rations of one soldier for 6 months, without designating any particular soldier as the recipient of the contribution.

2. Let those thus pledging themselves furnish, say 80 pounds of bacon and 180 pounds of flour (or its equivalent) IMMEDIATELY, and the remainder at the end of three months, unless he prefer to adopt the better plan of advancing the whole amount pledged, at once.

4. Let the pledge of each individual, subscribing and furnishing the rations of one soldier for six months, be made the basis of larger subscriptions Those whose generosity and whose means will enable them to do so, may obligate themselves to provide the rations of 5, 10, 20 or any number of soldiers for 6 months; while even the poor, who could not afford to supply the rations of one man, may, combining, authorize one of their number to make the designated subscription of, at least, one ration for one man for six months

To effect this, I earnestly recommend that county and neighborhood meetings be immediately held in every portion of the State, at which subscriptions may be taken up; and, that a committee of responsible and reliable gentlemen be appointed by such meetings, to wait on those who do not attend, and ascertain what can be raised at the earliest possible moment.

And rest assured, that no patriot can better serve his country, than in so doing By this means every possible ounce of provisions which can be spared for the support of our army, may be made available

Should you not, Fellow Citizens, respond to this call, our men solemnly mustered in the field, for want of these supplies, but you will have the mortification to behold them seized and appropriated to the support of the enemy who comes to destroy us Advancing as he does, through the interior of the land, without either water or railroad communications in his rear, he is now subsisting by the plunder and the ruin of the people of South Carolina, and must necessarily do so, when he enters our State Be assured, therefore, that every pound of bacon or beef, and every bushel of meal which you withhold from your own army, is a certain contribution to the maintenance of that of the enemy. You have, therefore, to choose whether you will feed your sons, who are bleeding in our defence, or our ruthless enemy, who burns our slaves and lays waste our country

To show you, fellow citizens, the earnest impression I have of the necessity of this action, and that I will call upon you to make no sacrifice which I will not share with you, I have tendered to the Commissary Department one-half of my entire year's supply, and expect to put my own family upon the limited rations allowed to our soldiers, regretting that I have so little to offer. That which is left me to subsist upon will be doubly sweet, because it will be the bread of honor and independence

Confidently relying upon the generosity and patriotism of a people to whom I have often appealed and never appealed in vain, I am, fellow citizens,

Your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

By the GOVERNOR:
A. M. McPHEETERS, Private Secretary.

Specie Exchanges.—The telegraph reported last week the passage of a bill by the Senate authorising the Secretary of the Treasury "to receive specie from the several States and use it for their benefit." The bill was introduced some weeks ago by Mr. Orr of S. C., and is as follows:—

"The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That it shall be lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury, under the direction of the President, to receive specie from any State in the Confederacy on the terms following, to wit: He shall exchange the same at market rates for Treasury notes, and credit the amount of Treasury notes acquired against the taxes to be paid by the citizens of the State, in such manner as may be agreed upon between him and the proper authorities of the state."

The Conscript Business.—In the Senate last week, in reply to a resolution of inquiry, a message was received from the President enclosing a communication from the Secretary of War, which states, says the Whig, the number of conscripts assigned to the army from camps of instruction, 81,893, Deserters returned to the army, 21,056 Assignments under section 8th of the act of February 17th, 1864, 7,733. Approximate estimate of men who have joined the army without passing the camps of instruction, 76,206 Total number of exempts, 66,586. Agricultural details, 2,217 Detailed on account of public necessity, 5,803 For details, bureaus and departments, not including artizans and mechanics, 4,612. Detail of contractors to furnish supplies, 717. Detail of artisans and mechanics, 6,960.

Guilford Taxes.—County tax is the same as that levied by the General Assembly for State purposes, to-wit: *One per cent* on all articles and subjects taxed *ad valorem*, and the same taxes on articles specifically taxed.—*Greens. Patriot.*

FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIERS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

CAMP 8D N. C. CAV., Feb. 27, 1865.

Messrs. Editors: Circumstances have long denied me the pleasure of even an *occasional* letter to you, but it would be presumption perhaps to attempt an apology. Long since I intended to have told you the particulars of a large Division Convention to renew our pledges of devotion to our country, and determination to resist as long as an enemy attempts to enslave us. Then, I intended to have given you an account of a grand Tournament and Coronation party by our brigade—who were the gallant Knights—who was the successful one—what lady was crowned Queen of Beauty, and such like. But all of these interesting events followed in such quick succession, environed as they were with other sterner duties, that it was then impossible and has now become inexpedient.

Our resolutions for war and resistance had been adopted but a few days, when we were called upon by the enemy to endorse them on the field of action. But of all this you have doubtless heard the part taken by the third Reg't and the heavy fighting by our infantry on Hatcher's Run, &c

The Railroad is again completed to Stony Creek and we are more convenient to our work near that place—still guarding our right flank. The situation about here remains unchanged, so far as I can learn. Indeed, if we can look at the roads and consult reason, all would agree that no move in force by either army will prove practicable for some time to come. Still we have seen enough of this war to convince us that the course which seems most impracticable is the one more commonly pursued. For instance, there comes a very inclement spell of weather, rain, hail and snow, and the men snatch a little comfort from the reflection that the enemy cannot move,—a night's repose has not been completed before a bugle sounds "boots and saddles," "a change comes over the spirit of their dreams" and they are off in mud and mire to meet the foe. Such things are constantly transpiring around us; so much so, that he is considered an almost fool who reasons at all. So, Messrs. Editors, you and your readers must attribute any lack of reason which may appear in my communications to this conviction (charitably.)

But all eyes are now turned to the movements of Sherman, as he is making his fearless strides through States, and is now pressing the border of the old North State. We do not like the idea of a fire in our rear and there never was a soldier that did; and we do not intend to stand it Do you want to know how we will avoid it? If no other way and Sherman comes too close up Gen Lee will have his grand old army to open ranks from the left to the right, flank face his rear rank "about," and at the command "forward," with hearts of steel and

> A devotion as pure as that which brings
> To his idols the Indian's offering,
> Yet as proud as that which the priestess feels
> While she nurses the flame at the shrine where she kneels,

trusting in the God of battles, they will move forward against a foe flushed with conquest, and make them bite the dust or in retreat crimson the land they have made desolate. Your correspondent is firmly persuaded that such disaster will sooner or later overtake the enemy that now threatens our rear God in His Providence will surely provide us means if we will but be true to Him and to ourselves. This struggle is just now becoming sublime, tho' it has all along been terrific It is now more than ever a "time that tries men's souls," and tries the stuff of which men are made. He who passes through this ordeal without flinching may take position alongside the noble few Such circumstances as those surrounding us give birth to Heroes of whom any nation might and *will* be proud—Heroes for whose sakes the country will let a noble emulation spring up between citizens and between soldiers as to who can do most, endure most, and sacrifice most for their own and the public good. If property must be sacrificed, lay it upon the altar of your country and pray God to sanctify it If your life is claimed sell it as dearly as possible, feeling that it is an oblation worthy of such a cause; and if die we all must, we will do so—exulting with the old Roman that "it is sweet and glorious to die for one's country." Let North Carolinians arise and emphatically give the lie to the slanderous imputation on their characters that they were disloyal. Let every one do his duty and we will yet bequeath to coming generations a rich boon—and if at last we are overcome, then "Freedom will shriek as we fall." But, my countrymen, in the language of one inspired, "I am persuaded better things of you" So mote it be.

Yours, &c, NEMINE.

THE HILLSBORO' CADETS.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

HILLSBORO', N. C, Feb'y 24, 1865

Messrs. Editors:—"The Cadets" were ordered to Raleigh last Sunday morning (15th) for what purpose we did not know, but we hoped to get equipments and assist in driving Sherman back. It would have cheered the most gloomy to have heard the long, loud shout which seemed to shake the very hills. We took the train and arrived safely in Raleigh, were ordered to march up town, quarter in the "City Hall" and wait for further orders We found the "City Hall" a large, warm and commodious room and made arrangements for lodging at once. No rations could be drawn on Sunday, so we "wicked Cadets" who *obeyed* the Governor's orders and *violated the Sabbath* had to furnish our own rations till Monday. Every thing was plenty and we made out very well. On Monday we drew plentiful rations of flour and meat, the Commissary was making up for lost time. You ought to have seen what extensive cooking operations we had under way in a few minutes After we were quartered in the "Hall" many Cadets found friends among the people of Raleigh, some who were *peculiarly* fortunate visited the young ladies, and we all had a fine time generally The people were very kind to us. The Editors of the Standard and Progress seemed to vie with each other in praising our little band, but both seemed to infer that we were *too young for service* and *ought to be sent home to our mothers;* when we get into action we will endeavor to show them that we are gallant sons of noble sires, who care not for hardship, suffering or danger, if in the discharge of our duty to our country and loved ones.

On Tuesday we were ordered to Hillsboro', but some prisoners having arrived we were ordered to remain and guard them. I left the Battalion on Wednesday doing guard duty and under orders to march to Camp Mangum. Capt. Tucker is in command of the Battalion, Maj. Gordon being elsewhere, and the next in command sick. He is a very fine gentleman. I neglected to state in the first of my letter that all the sick and several small Cadets were left here, but *no Cumberland boy was left behind*

Very respectfully, L'INCONNU.

A New Rebel Ram.—The statements from abroad are too positive and circumstantial to admit a doubt that a powerful ship, flying the Confederate flag, is on the ocean. She sailed from the coast of France, sealed by a French and armed by an English steamer. She is said to be more powerful than the Merrimac, and her destination was thought in Europe to be Charleston. The vessel is called the Olinde.

FOREIGN RECOGNITION.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

It is undeniably true that too many of our people, in the early stages of the war, placed too much confidence in early foreign aid to end the struggle, without reflecting that European governments are controlled, in their policy and action, by self-interest; and while we had, and, I have no doubt, now have, the sympathy of the people, we need not expect any favorable action of foreign governments until their *interest* prompts them. In the Revolution of 1776 this was the case, and it is certainly so now. We only received recognition and aid then, *when we had deserved it by endurance*, and when the interest of France and Spain, and particularly the former, determined her sovereign to come to our assistance. A recurrence to this interesting part of our history will clearly manifest this; and the circumstances and situation of that period and this will show when and how foreign intervention was then obtained, and the probability of it now. A war between France and England had only terminated in 1763; and France had seriously impaired her finances, and her military and marine establishments were in a state of weakness which could scarcely be imagined. France and Spain stood, in relation to the British Colonies, in nearly the identical situation of France and England now in relation to the Confederate States. We sent Commissioners then to them, under high expectations that they would give us assistance in separating from, and thereby weakening, the British empire—the great rival power in Europe; but we obtained no recognition, aid or assistance for several years. I here note the arguments then employed by Ministers in France against recognition. In 1774 the Count de Vergennes, the minister of foreign affairs under Louis XVI, a young man and who had recently commenced his reign, presented a memorial to the King in relation to the probabilities of maintaining peace with the continental powers of Europe, in which he says: "If after having taken a view of the Continent, we turn our eyes to the Ocean, do we perceive there greater motives for security? We see by our side an unquiet nation, more jealous of the prosperity of her neighbors than anxious for her own happiness; powerfully armed and ready to strike the instant it may suit her to threaten. Let us not deceive ourselves with respect to her. Whatever parade the British ministers may make of their pacific dispositions, we cannot count on those dispositions longer than their domestic embarrassments may continue. These may cease They may even increase to such a point as to determine the government to give this restlessness of spirit a direction against external objects. It is not without examples for the cry of war with France to be the signal of union to the parties which divide England." In 1776 the Count presented another memorial, in relation to the manner in which France and Spain ought to contemplate the consequences of the quarrel between Great Britain and her colonies. Upon this we have the reflections of Mr. Turgot, to show the ideas then entertained by the Cabinet of Versailles on the subject. He says: "In going over with Monsieur De Vergennes the various practicable modes which the quarrel between England and her colonies may terminate, it has appeared to me that the event, the most desirable for the interest of the two crowns (France and Spain) would be, that England should conquer the resistance of her colonies and force them to submit to her yoke. The reasons for this opinion are, if the colonies should only be subjugated by the ruin of all their resources, England would lose the advantages she has hitherto drawn from them during peace by the increase of her commerce, and during war by the use she has been able to make of their strength. If on the contrary, the vanquished colonies preserve their riches and their population, they will preserve their courage and their desire [illegible] to employ a part of her forces to prevent another insurrection The supposition of an absolute separation of the colonies from the mother country appears to me infinitely probable. Whenever the independence of the colonies shall be complete, and shall be acknowledged by the English themselves, there will result from thence a total revolution in the political and commercial connexion between Europe and America; and I believe firmly that all the European powers will be compelled to abandon all empire over their colonies, to leave them an entire liberty of commerce with all nations, and to be content with partaking of that liberty in common with others, and preserving with their colonies the bonds of friendship and relationship. A reconciliation above all, and a speedy reconciliation, between England and America, appears to me to be the only state of things in which the two crowns can have to apprehend immediate danger." Mr. Turgot proceeds thus: "With respect to the measures which ought to be pursued by the two crowns to prevent the danger which may threaten them, I think precisely with the Count De Vergennes, in the necessity of rejecting every plan of aggression on our part" The memorial concludes with these suggestions: "First, to watch attentively all those circumstances which might notify the approach of danger. In particular, to observe the seacoasts of the isles and the gulf of Mexico, and to procure frequent information of what was passing on the bank of Newfoundland. To observe in England the condition of their troops, and of their armaments, as well as the state of the public credit, and of that of the minister. To endeavor to be informed of what is passing in the English colonies, avoiding in the meantime every thing which might create an opinion that we have there any direct or authorized agent. Second, to facilitate to the colonists the means of procuring, in the way of commerce, the articles, and even the money, which they need; but without departing from neutrality, and without giving them direct succors. Third, to re establish and without *eclat* our marine; to fill our magazines, repair our vessels, and put ourselves in a condition to fit out with dispatch, when it shall be necessary, a squadron at Toulon, and another at Brest, while Spain shall fit out one at Ferrol. Fourth, if we shall have just cause to fear still more imminent danger, actually to fit out the squadrons but detain them in port." The historian says: "It was deemed of the last importance to avoid a war with England, and to prevent a speedy reconciliation between Great Britain and the Colonies; although it was thought most desirable that the contest, whenever it did end, should terminate in the subjugation of the latter." You will here see that *interest—interest* is the controlling motive that suggests these reflections And during this time "the impression that a reconciliation between the mother country and her colonies would certainly take place was carefully enforced by Lord Stormont, the British minister at the court of France, and produced real apprehensions that a settlement of differences between the two countries would be followed by serious consequences to their islands in the West Indies." How similar the impression attempted by Seward that the rebellion would be crushed in 90 days and then attention would be directed to Canada and Mexico! And now, may we not reasonably speculate, that similar arguments have been used in reference to the Confederate States? But after prevailing for years they were abandoned by France and Spain "to seize the present moment (1777) to revenge past injuries, humble the haughty rival of France and dismember the empire of Britain." May not the time approach in our history when it may seem the interest of France and England to seize this occasion to support Maximilian in Mexico and secure to England the colony of Canada? When France decided to act it was said "The enmity of the colonies had proved itself formidable to Britain and their friendship became desirable to France. *Having helped themselves* they found it less difficult to obtain help from others." And Mr. Girard, one of the King's council of State, said "Nor was it pretended that he (the King) acted wholly for their sakes, (in making the treaty,) since besides his real good will to them, it was manifestly the *interest* of France that the power of England should be diminished by the separation of the colonies from its government" The treaty first made public was one of friendship and commerce only, without stipulating any peculiar advantages to France; but an eventual treaty of alliance was secretly concluded in case recognition resulted in a war between France and England. War did ensue, France gave us her aid, our independence was soon secured and peace was concluded between France and England The reasonable conclusions from the above are: First, we must unwaveringly, and if possible unitedly, prosecute our defence—"help ourselves"—and thereby find it less difficult to obtain help from others. Second, it being the manifest *interest* of foreign powers to weaken the United States, physically and commercially, and to maintain securely their power on this continent, we may reasonably expect recognition although it may involve a war with the United States. Let none, however, indulge hope of such result until we farther suffer in this sacred cause; and if "the mind remains unsubdued"—as I fervently pray it may—our independence is obtained and our highest hopes are realized! PUBLIUS.

Thrilling Affair in Robeson County—A Lady uses a Repeater with Fearful Effect.—On Tuesday morning, about 1 o'clock, a band of deserters and escaped Yankee prisoners, 15 in number, and led by a Yankee naval officer, attacked the house of Mrs. Dr. McNair, in Robeson County, and, after spending nearly an hour in the attempt, forced an entrance by breaking down the front door. Mr. Wm. Stanton, of this County, was staying at Mrs. McNair's on the night in question, and being called by that lady to her assistance, soon after the attack commenced, promptly "reported for duty." An excited contest followed, Mrs. McNair and Mr. Stanton both being provided with Colt's repeaters and a rifle, which they used with fatal effect; one of the attacking party being killed and another wounded in the breast We regret to learn that Mrs. McNair was badly burned and her face otherwise injured by fragments of glass and powder. Mr. Stanton was also slightly wounded.

Mrs. McNair and Mr. Stanton having exhausted their ammunition, the latter, at the urgent solicitation of Mrs. McNair (who feared the desperadoes would wreak vengeance on him for the death of their comrade,) retired, and she remained alone to brave their fury. On approaching her, the Yankee officer in command was so struck with her bold and determined mien, that, instead of harming her, he complimented her warmly on her heroic conduct, stating that she was the first person, man or woman, who had offered any resistance to his band.

They carried off nearly all the valuables they could find, including silverware and jewelry, six thousand dollars in Confederate notes, and two breastpins, containing the pictures of Mrs. McNair's husband and son; the latter of whom fell in defence of his country on one of the battlefields of Virginia. The courage and determination of this noble woman savors more of romance than reality, but the incidents given in this article are literally true. It carries one back to the days of the Revolution, when the fearless women of the Colonies performed so many feats of [illegible] worthy to be imitated by many of the male sex whose knees are smiting together, like Belshazzar's, lest they be attacked by deserters and other roving desperadoes.—*Fayetteville Telegraph.*

Deserters Shot.—The artful deserter, well known throughout this community, by the name of Dial, accompanied by a young man purporting to be from Raleigh, by the name of Fann or Fant, was arrested in the Northern portion of this county, on Sunday last, and both shot. The circumstances, as we learn, are these. The party was closed upon while in the house of a friend and their surrender demanded, which was at first made, but subsequently, while yet in the house, both the parties sprung forward, one towards the door, the other, the stair case, but instantly Capt. Williams, an officer on recruiting service in the community, who was in command of the guard, fired upon Dial, the ball taking effect in his left hip and penetrating, as it is supposed, around the bone and passing out near the groin. Instantly turning he fired upon the other man, Fann, the ball penetrating his bowels, and is believed to have inflicted a mortal wound.

It has become a common occurrence for the stage coach, on the High Point road, to be attacked, and any deserter that might be on transportation turned loose.—*Winston Sentinel, 3d.*

LENOIR, N. C.—A private letter to us from Lenoir, Caldwell county, says: "We feel safer than ever in Lenoir. We have soldiers enough to protect this region, and there is, we think, no danger. Occasionally a house is robbed over near the mountains; but deserters will be hunted out of their fastnesses. We understand also that Watauga will be put right."—*Salis. Watchman.*

Camp Stokes.—The Greensboro' Patriot sums up the operations of this camp near that place commanded by Maj. J. R. McLean. From Oct. 22, 1864, to Feb. 18, 1865, 1777 conscripts were enrolled and thus disposed of: Light duty men assigned to various appropriate duties, 397; men sent to the field, 1,199; men discharged by Med. Ex. Board, dropped, or irregularly enrolled, deserted, &c., 187; deserters received and sent to army, 438.

Bonded Farmers.—Congress has passed the bill to relieve agriculturists exempted and detailed, under the act of February 17, 1864, in certain cases. It provides that when all or any part of the bacon or beef, or animals out of which the meat mentioned in said act is payable, has been, or may be taken or destroyed by the enemy, and not recovered by the owner, the officers collecting the same may remit the payment thereof, in whole or in part, in proportion to the loss of the obligor, upon satisfactory proof thereof.

Important to the Reserves.—General Orders No. 8, Richmond, Feb. 23, direct that Generals of reserves will immediately place upon active duty every man belonging to that class who is not specially detailed, or has not been turned over to generals commanding armies, departments or districts. They will organize them into convenient bodies, and will employ them vigorously in arresting and returning to the army all deserters and absentees. This service will, for the present, constitute the primary duty of officers of the reserve forces, and they will enter actively upon it. Generals commanding armies will return to the generals of reserves for this duty all the reserve forces in active service that are not indispensably necessary in the field. It is not intended that these orders shall affect the reserves employed in guarding railroad bridges.

CONSCRIPTION EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

The following report of the Superintendent of Conscription has been transmitted to the Confederate Senate by the Secretary of War:—

BUREAU OF CONSCRIPTION, Richmond, Feb'y 17.

Hon. John C. Breckinridge Secretary of War:

Sir; Your reference of the following resolution was received at this office on the 17th instant:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of War be instructed to inform the Senate, with as little delay as possible what number of conscript soldiers have been levied in each State of the Confederacy and placed in service in the field; whether there has been any failure to execute the law of conscription in any State by reason of any cause other than its occupation by the enemy; if so, why it has not been executed with uniformity in all localities where the operations of the enemy have not prevented."

The following exhibits the number of conscripts assigned to the army from camps of instruction as furnished by the reports of the commandants of conscripts of the respective States:

Virginia, 13 933; North Carolina, 21,348. South Carolina, 9 120; Georgia, 8 993; Alabama, 14 875, exclusive of operations of Gen Pillow; Mississippi, 8 081, exclusive of operations of Gen Pillow; Florida 362, since Jan'y 1864; East Louisiana, 81, for part July, August and September 1864; East Tennessee, 5 270 Total, 81 993

It is conjectured that nearly an equal number have gone into the service, and been placed on rolls, who are not recorded in the camps of instruction The returns are accurate in the four States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia

In the month of June 1863, the matter of conscription in the States of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee was taken from the control of this bureau and placed in the hands of Brig Gen. Pillow, who continued to administer it until Jan'y 1864 This bureau has never been able to obtain any record or report of the operation of conscription in those States during that period of seven months It is believed none exist. Much of the year 1864 was exhausted in the endeavor to get rid of the system of Gen Pillow and re establish a more uniform and efficient service It is believed the returns, since March 1864, from those States are nearly correct

In the States of Florida, Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi there has been "failure" to execute the law of conscription for the reasons stated above. In the other States it has been executed with as much uniformity and vigor as the agencies assigned to the duty and the circumstances of the country would allow.

Where there have appeared diversities they have resulted from the difference in the efficiency of officers, the opposition of State authorities, the resistance of communities, and the exercise of the discretion vested in the Executive. In many cases, localities bordering on the lines of the enemy have required different proceedings from those applicable to the interior. In some of these, great leniency was necessary; in some, such rigor as induced the Executive to charge military commanders with the service. In some sections the condition of the populations demanded leniency, others admitted the utmost rigor. Since January, 1864, in all the States east of the Mississippi, the same general system has prevailed.

Instructions to local officers have been uniform with the special variations indicated The differences in the returns of the four Eastern States is fully accounted for, thus: In Virginia and South Carolina there has never been exhibited the slightest opposition to the conscription law, and after its passage, large numbers of men passed into the service without being compelled to go through the camps, thus evading the law on one point to obey it in another way. In North Carolina and Georgia, there was popular and constituted resistance. The consequence was that while in Virginia there were but 14,000 conscripts, there are supposed to be 16,000 *quasi* volunteers; while in North Carolina there are 21,500 conscripts, and, perhaps, less than 3000 *quasi* volunteers. In Georgia the case is different, and presents this aspect: That so violent was the prejudice against conscription that only about 9 000 have been returned, and yet, the people choosing their own mode of going into service, have sent, it is supposed, about 26 000 *quasi* volunteers. The constant and persistent effort of this bureau has been to preserve uniformity and palliate all inevitable disturbances in the administration of the law

I remain most respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN A. PARSTON,
Brig. Gen'l and Superintendent.

Blockade Running.—The Wilmington correspondent of the London Times writes on the 27th December:—

"It would be rather a blessing than otherwise to the Confederates if the port of Wilmington were shortly closed. So long as the war continues there will be a demand for muskets, nitre, medicines, blankets, army clothing and shoes, notwithstanding the abundant introduction of those articles which has already taken place; but it is doubtful whether a sufficient supply could not be sucked in through the numberless creeks and rivers which intersect the three thousand or four thousand miles of seacoast between the Rio Grande and Chesapeake Bay. *These rivers are now becoming well known to the blockade running captains, and, come what may, whether Wilmington or Charleston fall or not, it is absurd to think that the coast of Secessia can ever be hermetically sealed.*"

Negotiations Abroad.—The New York Herald's Paris correspondent writes that the Confederate Government has made formal propositions to France and England that slavery would be abolished if recognition would thus be secured. And further, that if France and England would lend us positive aid the Confederate Goverment was prepared to return the assistance in kind. The correspondent thought the overtures were certain to fail.

The Quarter Master Bill.—In the Senate, last week, the Senate bill to abolish the offices of post quartermasters, post commissaries, etc., with House amendment, was taken up. The House amendment struck out so much of the bill as provided for abolishing post quartermasters and quartermasters engaged in the collection of the tax in kind. The amendment was agreed to and the bill passed.

The Negro Bill in the Senate.—This bill was indefinitely postponed by the Senate on the 21st, by the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs Baker, Barnwell, Caperton, Garland, Graham, Hunter, Johnson of Georgia, Johnson of Missouri, Maxwell, Orr and Wigfall—11.

NAYS.—Messrs. Brown, Burnett, Haynes, Henry, Oldham, Semmes, Simms, Vest, Walker and Watson—10

The Virginia Senators, Hunter and Caperton, have since been instructed to vote for the bill, thus reversing the situation.

CONFEDERATE TAX NOTICE,

RICHMOND COUNTY.

THE Collectors with Assessors will meet the Tax Payers at the following times and places, to-wit:

At Laural Hill, on Monday and Tuesday 13th and 14th March.

At Stewartsville, on Wednesday and Thursday 15th and 16th March.

At Williamson's, on Friday 17th March.

At Rockingham, Monday and Tuesday 20th and 21st, Superior Court week.

At Steele's, Wednesday and Thursday 22d and 23d March.

At Mineral Springs, Friday 24th March,

To assess and collect the following taxes, now due,

Tax on Privileges;

Gross quarterly sales;

Additional tax on profits made by buying and selling between 17th Feb'y and 1st July 1864; Incomes, salaries and profits for 1864.

Addfional tax on profits exceeding 25 per cent. made by any corporation or joint stock Co., during the year ending 31st Dec'r Also, 1 per cent on all agricultural property not heretofore collected

Persons failing to meet us at the above appointments will have but one more opportunity of making returns, &c., on Monday and Tuesday of April Court, after which time the books will be closed. Hereafter, gross amount of quarterly sales must be made promptly on 1st Saturday of April, July, Oct'r and Jan'y, at the Court House in Rockingham, or the penalty will be enforced in every instance. All persons in arrears for tax must meet me and pay soon, or the extreme penalties of the law will be enforced.

L. W. McLAURIN,
Tax Col. 33d Dist. N. C.

Feb'y 28, 1865. 14t31Mh

THE NEW TAX LAW

On the 23d ult, the House of Representatives took up the tax bill, the pending question being upon its engrossment, its consideration by sections having been completed. Various substitutes were offered, and rejected, and then Mr. Gilmer, of N. C, offered the original tax bill reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, with the 2d and 4th sections stricken out, and with two amendments offered by Messrs Funsten, of Virginia, and Logan of North Carolina, (relative to exempting districts overrun by the enemy and the families of soldiers from the tax in kind) added thereto, as a substitute for the bill of the majority of the committee of thirteen, as before the House.

The vote being taken, the motion to substitute was adopted—yeas 41, nays 35; and the question being ordered on its passage, the vote resulted—yeas 44, nays 30. So the bill (as offered by Mr Gilmer) passed, and is as follows:

A Bill to be entitled An Act to levy additional taxes for the year 1865, for the support of the government.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That upon all subjects of taxation under existing tax laws levying taxes for the present year, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, there shall be assessed and levied an additional tax of 100 per cent. upon the present tax on the same subjects of and for the year 1865, including the specific taxes and, all taxes on sales during the year 1865, whether made before or after the passage of this act, and not expressly excepted or otherwise provided by this act: which tax shall be payable in Confederate Treasury notes of the new issue at par, or in the certificates of indebtedness authorized by "An act to reduce the currency and authorize a new issue of notes and bonds," approved February 17, 1864, at the rate of one hundred and five dollars for every one hundred dollars of said certificates; but without any allowance for interest, and the same shall be collected at the same times with the other taxes on the same subjects under existing laws. And where any tax for 1865 has been collected prior to the passage of this act, the one hundred per cent. additional tax thereon shall be collected as soon as practicable after its passage.

Sec. 2. In the year 1865, and in each succeeding year thereafter during the continuance of the existing war between the United States and the Confederate States, there shall be levied and collected the tax in-kind on the products of property employed in agriculture as now provided by law, without deduction or abatement from the assessed tax on the property, so employed: Provided, That the families of soldiers in the army and those soldiers discharged or retired from active service in the field on account of physical disability, whose families are composed entirely of white members, and whose farms are cultivated exclusively by the members of the family, shall not be liable to any tax-in kind.

Sec. 3. That upon the failure of any person, copartnership, joint stock company, corporation, or any other association of persons, to pay the taxes levied by this act, at such times and places as the collector may prescribe by public notice, such persons, co-partnerships, joint stock companies, corporations or associations of persons, shall be deemed and held as defaulters, and shall pay a penalty of ten per cent. upon the amount of tax due, and be subject to all the provisions of existing laws authorizing the seizure and sale of property for non-payment of taxes.

Sec. 4 If any State shall elect to pay the taxes imposed by this act upon its citizens, notice thereof must be given to the Secretary of the Treasury on or before the 1st of April next, whereupon he shall estimate the probable sum of the tax for the State so applying and notify the Governor thereof, and upon the payment of not less than three-fourths of the sum so estimated being made on or before the 1st of June, 1865, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to instruct the tax collectors in the State so making payment to suspend the collection of the taxes imposed by this act And when the full returns shall have been received and the true sum of the tax ascertained, then the final settlement with the State shall be made and the sum of the remainder be collected, and when paid the Secretary of the Treasury shall give notice that the said taxes have been fully paid and discharged to the tax collector of the said State.

Sec. 5. That when the property (real or personal) has been injured or destroyed by the enemy, or the owner thereof have been temporarily deprived of the use thereof, or in the case of real estate, of the means of cultivating the same by reason of the presence or proximity of the enemy, the assessment on such property shall be reduced in proportion to the damage sustained by the owner, or the tax thereon may be reduced in the same ratio by the district collector on satisfactory evidence submitted to him by the owner or assessor.

From the South.—We learn from a gentleman who is just through from the South, that Columbia is now entirely clear of the enemy, and refugees have been returning for three or four days past. About three-fourths of the city was destroyed by fire. Gen. Wade Hampton, with a patriotism and self-sacrificing spirit, eminently characteristic of the man, applied the torch with his own hands to his elegant family mansion, and saw it in ruins before he left the place.

It was reported that Thomas was preparing for a grand raid through Alabama. Gen. Forrest had assumed command of all the forces in that direction, and the people were rallying to his standard with an alacrity and enthusiasm worthy the first days of the war. It is generally believed that it will be the roughest march Thomas has ever undertaken.—*Pet. Ex., 27th.*

East Tennessee and Southwestern Virginia.—A letter from Wytheville, dated the 15th instant, says: "The enemy, 4,500 strong, under Gillem, are reported to be advancing through upper East Tennessee. Their outposts are north of Greenville. Prisoners brought in by our scouts state that it is the intention of the enemy to occupy the whole State, if possible, on the day of the election—22d instant. The same deeds of murder that East Tennessee has witnessed daily since the war commenced are still being executed. No man's life is safe an hour."

The same writer adds: "Giltner's brigade of Kentucky cavalry had an engagement last Saturday at Ball's bridge, in Lee county, Virginia, 25 miles north of Cumberland gap, resulting in a splendid victory to our arms. Our loss was not over 60 killed and wounded.

Richmond Examiner.

Handsome Little Fight.—A very handsome little affair occurred one day last week, in the vicinity of Burwell's Bay, in which about 250 Yankees, belonging to the celebrated Naval Brigade, were defeated and routed by a comparatively small force of Confederate scouts assisted by a party of the Independent Signal Corps. This force of the enemy had been sent out to intercept and capture a secret expedition known to have been despatched in that direction recently by our Government. While resting at Burwell's Bay, this force was vigorously attacked by the scouts and signal corps men, who eventually succeeded in killing and wounding a number and putting the balance to flight. Sixteen dead bodies were subsequently found.—*Petersburg Express.*

Deep River Foundry.—The Senate has passed the House bill to establish an arsenal and foundry in the valley of Deep River, in this State.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1865.

THE NEWS.—Amid the multitude of reports from Cheraw which every day and hour brings forth, there is very little that is reliable, and even that little it might not be proper to publish, for the reason that it is only through our lines that the enemy elsewhere can obtain information of the situation of Sherman. For this reason we refrain from contradicting this or affirming that story, and beg our readers to be satisfied with the assurance, that whilst the sharp skirmishing has taken place which was to have been expected where hostile armies confront each other, nothing decisive has occurred. We pin our faith to Gen. Lee's assurance that Sherman "CAN AND WILL BE DEFEATED," and await the result with patience.

From Wilmington we have only rumors, and these only as to personal matters.

The Northern Mail, in this morning at 8 o'clock brings us Richmond papers of Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday last, from which we take a good deal of interesting matter.

FAITH AND HOPE.—We give a conspicuous place below to an admirable article from the Richmond Sentinel, which expresses our own views precisely, such as we have often presented to our readers, though not in so impressive a manner; such as have always sustained us, and we have reason to know very many of our readers also, under defeat and disaster. "Let us trust in God and take courage. We shall surely conquer in the end." "Be not afraid: only believe."

From the Richmond Sentinel.

"All these things are against me," said one of old, when after a long train of adverse circumstances, he was overtaken by a new trouble: "All these things are against me," he said, at the very time when, unknown to himself, he had reached the end of his disasters, and was taking his last draught from the cup of sorrow. Soon the darkness, which was about him, gave place to the day, and his distresses were forgotten in the prosperity and happiness that shone upon his path.

How often, in every one's experience, is hope distressed and faith alarmed, by the frowning and unpropitious providences which seem to indicate that an end which is sought, is in opposition to the Divine dispositions. When the hand of Providence lies heavy upon us we are prone to consider it not as a chastisement upon us, but as its curse upon our cause, and we are disposed to distrust a path which is thus beset with unexpected calamities. But nothing is more common in the history both of men and of nations, than for an object and an undertaking undoubtedly ordered of God, to be greatly hindered in its execution, and long delayed, though not finally defeated or baffled.

No student of history, no social or political philosopher of either continent, now doubts that the separation of our fathers from the yoke of England, was of the direct providence of God. Yet how painfully protracted was the struggle that led to that result. How stern the trial, how severe the sufferings which attended it. How often it seemed on the very point of failure. But more dispiriting than what were considered the *natural* hardships of that exhausting contest, were those misfortunes or disappointments which seemed the immediate effect of the hostile interference of Heaven. Take a few examples. The battle which was to have been fought in defence of Philadelphia, in 1777, was prevented by a heavy storm of rain which ruined the powder of the Americans and forced them to retreat, leaving the city to fall without a blow. The battle of Germantown, well planned and well fought, was lost by the sudden settling of a heavy fog. These adverse results, following closely upon the unhappy defeat at Brandywine, seemed to indicate that the Ruler of the elements was on the side of the foe, in those critical moments.

Passing over other instances in our revolutionary struggle, to avoid tediousness, we will notice a remarkable example in which Heaven seemed pitiless to the distress which was ultimately to be relieved. Few events are so famed in history, as the siege of Leyden in 1574. Whether we consider the determination of the besiegers or the courage and endurance of the garrison and citizens, it is seldom that we are called to contemplate such a display of will and perseverance.

The siege had endured a long time and the inhabitants were reduced to the utmost extremity or distress. Gaunt famine had already swept away its thousands, and the emaciated survivors were eking out a wretched existence by feeding upon vermin, raw hides, and the bones which they found on the dunghills. Unable otherwise to relieve them, the Prince of Orange had opened the dykes, and let in the sea. Upon the advancing flood he rode his vessels, bearing reinforcements and laden with supplies. Animated by the prospect the beleaguered citizens patiently endured their terrible privations and addressed themselves with new zeal to their military duties. In this interesting and critical moment, the wind set in strongly from the west. Soon it checked the rising waters, and then repelled them. Some of the vessels were grounded—others were compelled to retire.

Day after day this disastrous west wind continued The situation of the besieged, already desperate, became terrible. The miserable food which barely sustained their lives, was almost gone. But the west wind continued. Day after day they watched the motionless vanes upon their steeples, and prayed God for relief But steadily the wind set in from the west. Their enemies jeered them with their disappointed hopes, and exulted in their own speedy triumph. But the fatal wind still continued to blow, and still repelled the waters which alone could save them. At last they had consumed their wretched remnant of food. Still the wind hung in the west. Who would have wondered if the faith and courage of these gallant men had given way under this protracted concurrence of the hostility of man and the frowns of Heaven? Who would have thought it strange if, under trial scarce less than that of Job, they had yielded in sullen despair to what they might well have deemed their fate?

But so they did *not*. Undaunted to the *last*, and at the last, they still stood to their arms, and still besought the favor of Heaven by humble prayers and brave deeds. It was then that they realised the truth, that "man's extremity is God's opportunity." The vanes upon their spires at last swung round, and told them of the coming waters and the coming relief! The starving men summoned their remaining powers of endurance, and withstood their enemies while they watched the swelling of the flood. It was not long before all they had hoped for was realised. Their enemies were dispersed, the siege was raised, they had taken their deliverers to their embrace, and were enjoying the plenty which they brought them. Deliverance was long delayed, but it had come at last, and come in time!

A more recent case of a somewhat similar character, was the siege of Lucknow. Long had the imprisoned garrison resisted the multitudes that beset them and panted for their blood. Bravely had they fought, until longer endurance seemed impossible unless muscles were of brass and sinews of iron. But still they fought on, hoping for a relief from which it seemed that God had cut them off. At last faith seemed to have become an absurdity, and despair alone to be reasonable. But still they fought on, brave and unblenching in their agony. Suddenly the ear of one of the fainting women caught a sound familiar on her native hills. Very indistinct it was, for it was very distant, and she paused to listen. Again it came, and clearer than before, when leaping and shouting, she exclaimed "Dinna ye hear the pibroch? Dinna ye hear the pibroch?" And sure enough it was the wild music of the Highlanders, announcing their coming, and informing their besieged comrades that their danger was now over.

We might multiply examples to prove that the book of Job is not the only narrative that teaches the folly and the wickedness of abandoning hope and courage under adversity, and of consenting to "curse God and die" when His providences fall heavily upon us. We must distinguish between ourselves and our cause. We must not deem the latter to be lost or disowned because *we* may be chastised. We must learn to labor, to suffer and to wait. Our chastenings are designed to teach us the fear of God—not the fear of *man!* The gallant Crittenden who was captured in a descent upon Cuba and condemned to die, was commanded to kneel to his executioners: "I bow only to God!" was the noble answer. Let it be ours! Every disaster we suffer should teach us fresh humility in the sight of Heaven, and fresh courage and defiance for our enemies! It is not our duty to bow to the yankee. God will never make us do it. He would not have us to do it. He will curse us if we do. In His own good time He will bring us deliverance if we shall show the resolution of the actors in the scenes we have described, and discharge our duties like brave men and true!

Our people have not been without occasions for the depressing apprehensions against which it is the object of these remarks to guard them. It is seldom that three successive summers of drought have cut down our harvests; but this we have had to endure in this our time of sorest need. It was difficult to believe that the multitudes of citizens at the North who realised that their own liberties were involved in the success of the Confederate secession—the Stantons, the Sickles, and even the Butlers, who urged us to secede, with promise of co-operation—would have so perfidiously and swiftly headed the hunt and the cry for our blood. It was impossible to conceive that the nations of the world could have pursued to us a course so unjust, so cruel, so disgraceful, as that of which we are the victims. "All these things are against us." And we can point, too, to the loss of advantages which promised extremely important results, through the hostility of the elements.

On the other hand, however, our path has been marked by deliverances almost as wonderful as the passage of the Red Sea. Our enemies have been made to supply us with fresh courage whenever our resolution threatened to flag; and to secure to us a perfect unity whenever discord menaced us with its inevitable ruin. Very recently we have witnessed what seems a special Providence in our behalf, wonderfully preparing us for the recent disasters or manœuvres which otherwise might have undermined the courage and destroyed the unanimity of our people.

Then let us trust in God and take courage. We shall assuredly conquer in the end. The wind will change—nobody knows how soon. The sound of some pibroch may any day fall on our ears. We have but to hold on, and to fight on, and to trust on, with faith and courage as our motto, and the day will come when we shall tell over our present sufferings with an honest joy, and shall reckon the fortitude with which we now endure them as our proudest title to a glorious fame.

THE LADIES AND THE HOSPITALS.—The advent of so many sick and wounded soldiers has called forth all the active sympathy for which the women of the Confederacy have been distinguished during this war We insert a communication complimentary to them.

Orders having been received here yesterday to prepare accommodations for 400 additional patients, the annexed notice of a meeting of Ladies of the town and vicinity has been handed to us for publication. In addition, we are requested, in their behalf, to ask assistance from the country, particularly of poultry, eggs, flour, fruit, vegetables, butter, or any thing else that would be useful to the sick, and not readily obtainable in sufficient quantities in town. Contributions may be left with Mrs. Dr. Fescendon at the General Hospital, or at the Sub-Hospital to the care of Mrs. Jesse K. Kyle.

NOTICE.—A meeting of the Ladies of the town and vicinity is requested at the Fayetteville Hotel Parlor on to morrow afternoon, 7th inst., at 3½ o'clock, on important business connected with the Hospitals.

SEND THE SOLDIERS.—Our patriotic Governor does not say *Go*, but *Come!* It was so in the beginning of the war, when he volunteered as a private in defence of his country. It has been so ever since, and is so NOW. We were inclined to say that he never did things by halves, but we take that back—he gives half of his year's supply of food to the soldiers; and in return asks his fellow citizens each to feed one soldier for six months. Who, that can at all afford it, will refuse his request? Now is the time to come to the aid of the country, to sustain the gallant soldiers who are fighting for our lives, our property, our liberty and our honor. Let meetings be held; but where there are no meetings, let individuals act, each for himself, and all for their country and its cause.

See the Governor's eloquent address.

BRING IN THE TITHES.—The army of Hardee is in want of food. It is the army to which we have to look for protection and safety. Capt. McGowan, Post Quartermaster here, calls upon the Farmers to bring in their tithes at once. Who will not respond to his call?

GOOD ADVICE.—We have seen a letter from a North Carolina officer in Lee's army, from which we make the following extract. The officer is suffering from a painful wound received during the last Summer's glorious campaign, and has been recommended to be "retired" from the service in consequence of that wound. But he declines to avail himself of that opportunity to retire honorably from the post of danger and duty, preferring to endure pain and face the enemy at the head of his command. He says:

"If the people at home would but shut their croaking mouths, open their well filled granaries and smokehouses and render a more generous support to the Administration and the Army, instead of slogging our energies by their evil influences, long faces and subjugated talk, our hardships would be less, the fighting more decisive, and consequently "the news" would be better and more encouraging."

HOME INFLUENCES.—There are certain localities in North Carolina, and doubtless in all the States, where every evil influence is brought to bear upon our noble soldiers, and to which are evidently owing many of the desertions that weaken our cause and disgrace the deserters and their families. An officer now at home on account of a severe wound received in battle, was speaking of this a few days ago, and told us how often the best and most cheerful soldiers returned gloomy and discontented to camp after a furlough. He said that on remonstrating with one of his men, an acquaintance from his own county, he had succeeded in dispelling his gloom, when the man apologised for it, remarking that, "The fact is that if Jeff. Davis were to go to the ——— settlement and stay three weeks, I'm d—d if he too wouldn't desert."

A TRIAL OF CONFEDERATE FAITH.—How true they may be we know not, but there are statements indicating a radical change of policy by the yankee government. The spirit which desolated Virginia and other States or portions of States heretofore occupied by the enemy is said to have passed away. Instead of burning and plundering and outraging, we now hear of kind treatment to the people and protection of all private property by Sherman. If these statements be true, which we doubt, the people of North Carolina are to submit to a test of their courage and loyalty far more severe than that against which our Virginia neighbors have borne themselves so nobly.

CAPT. BRADDY'S COMPANY.—A member of this company, —— Brown, arrived here a few days ago, very sick, having been paroled from Point Lookout. He furnishes the following list of the killed of his company in the battle at Fort Fisher, viz: Arthur Horne, John Cooper, —— Faucett, Daniel Hall, Isaac Thagard, Alex. Thames, —— Coats. He states that Oscar Hawley was wounded in the nose. Mr. Brown was so weak that he was not questioned as to the others in the Company.

OUTRAGES IN ROBESON.—We have received a communication complaining of most outrageous conduct in Robeson by officers of marines lately in that county. Sympathizing sincerely with the sufferers we cannot see that the publication would provide any remedy, even if the article could be published, as it cannot be for lack of other signature than the word "Robeson." Let the sufferers make their complaint, stating all the facts, to the authorities, or send it to us properly signed, and we will see that it reaches those who have the power and, we hope, the will to punish.

THE RIGHT SPIRIT.—Under this head the Milton Chronicle states that a government agent went to the house of Doctor Stamps in that place, to get boats and hands to transport corn on the Dan River. The Doctor was not at home but "his wife very readily tendered the services of three hands and a Boat, remarking that she "did not want any pay, apart from whipping the yankees" This is the right spirit—*the* spirit to whip the enemy. How different from the Shylock spirit that actuates two-thirds of the people of the Confederacy."

THE CAPTURE OF GENS. CROOK AND KELLEY.

As previously stated, these officers were captured in Cumberland, Md., by Lieut. McNiel and thirty gallant Confederate cavalry. From one of the party engaged in this dashing and brilliant enterprise, the Enquirer learns the following incidents of the capture:

The party crossed the Potomac in front of the town at a late hour on the night of the event, and capturing the only sentinel to be seen, induced him to divulge the countersign. The main body of the detachment was then posted in a convenient position, and the lieutenant commanding with several of the men, boldly rode into the town, which was garrisoned by over 4000 Federal troops. The headquarters of General Crook were at one hotel and those of Kelly at another, and, their locations being duly made known by the captured sentinel, the daring partizans made their way to those of the former, arriving first in front of which the lieutenant halted and inquired of the sentinel if the General was in. Receiving an affirmative reply, he said he had important despatches for him, and, dismounting, followed by his men, advanced to the sentinel, gave the countersign and passed in. Upon entering the hotel, the squad was received by an old negro woman, who, it appears, was the "night clerk" of the establishment, and upon making known their desire to be conducted to the room occupied by Gen. Crook, the old domestic looked at them with a kind of humorous suspicion and remarked, "Well, you all is de strangest sojars, I declar—you—you—you must take de light ye'rselves and go first—I'll pint de room out to you. I wont carry you dar, dough, no how." It did not make any difference to our bold cavaliers, which method the old woman preferred; they took the light and the lead, and in a moment or two were in front of the door, where the old woman hastily left them.

After several ineffectual raps, a response from within was obtained, and the visiters were ordered to enter.

"Is this Gen. Crook?" asked the lieutenant, holding the light so as to give him full view of the General as he drowsily looked at them from his bed

"Yes; what do you want?" was the reply.

"I" said the Lieutenant, "am Gen. Besser," and drawing a pistol and presenting it, added: "I have some very important business with you Gen. Crook, and will give you precisely two minutes to get up and put on your clothes."

The bewildered General did not know how to reply and did not dare to resist. He saw at a glance that it would be as useless as dangerous to attempt escape by raising an alarm, and he did not stop to solve the mystery of so unexpected a call. He obeyed at once, and a gentle suggestion as to the propriety of his keeping quiet being whispered in his ear, he passed out with his escort, as mute as a mummy. On their egress, the party persuaded the sentinel on duty to follow them, by inducements similar to those submitted to the General, and making their prisoners mount behind them, rode back to the main body.

In the meantime a second detachment rode up to the quarters of Gen Kelley, where a similar scene occurred, and that officer was, in due time, under guard.

But the party was not content. Ascertaining the quarters of the Adjutant General, they gave him a passing call, found him with his wife, who happened to be a blushing bride—and as peremptorily but as gently as possible, under the circumstances, succeeded in "mutating" him from a blissful bridegroom into a miserable poor devil of a prisoner. This capping the climax of the night's sport, the rendezvous was regained, and with their prisoners riding behind them, the command recrossed the river, and sped away through Hampshire.

By some means, the affair was discovered soon after they left, and a whole regiment pursued them to no purpose for fifty miles.

Upon being presented to Gen. Early at his headquarters in the Valley, the prisoners were received with the homely, but no doubt acceptable greeting: "Take seats, gentlemen. I presume you are tired after your ride," and then added the hero of brilliant victories and stunning defeats, with an intensification of that fine tooth comb peculiarity of his enunciation. "I expect some enterprising yankee will be stealing off with me in the same way some of these days."

Whether the prisoners relished the joke or not our informant failed to depose. They were doubtless in no humor for jokes. They are now in the Libby Prison, where it is hoped, they will be kept until our gallant men, arrested by them as "guerrillas" and confined in chains and dungeons upon that pretence, are released.

Gen. Johnston's Restoration to Command.—We learn that it was at the express and earnest solicitation of Gen. Beauregard that Gen. Johnston has recently been placed in command of the forces operating in the Carolinas. It is understood that Gen. Beauregard wrote to the President, saying that the general sentiment of the public, and particularly that of the army of Tennessee, was so urgent for Gen. Johnston's restoration to command that he was induced to join his own desire with theirs; that he did not wish to be removed from his present field of operations, but preferred to serve there under General Johnston, having had with him former occasions of service and confidence. We are pleased to be thus assured of those circumstances of patriotic friendship and generous zeal on the part of Gen. Beauregard, which made the occasion of General Johston's restoration to command.—*Rich'd Examiner.*

The War.—It is believed that Grant, on Friday and Saturday nights, moved a number of pieces of artillery to his left. The enemy's cavalry and the main body of his infantry have been moved towards Hatcher's Run, and at present, but a feeble force confronts our lines east of Petersburg. Intelligent deserters report that the entire Yankee lines between the Weldon Road and the Appomattox river are now defended by one corps alone—the ninth. The indications are that a few days of fine weather will be followed by active operations on the part of the enemy.—*Richmond Sentinel, 1st.*

Deserters in great numbers are coming into our lines from Grant's army, which is an indication that they are in expectation of a battle.—*Ib, 2d.*

Reinforcements on the way to Grant.—We have information that on Saturday last 21 transports, containing 6000 troops, left Alexandria for Fortress Monroe. Their destination is supposed to be Grant's lines.—*Rich. Examiner, 1st.*

North Georgia.—The West Point road is reported to be completed within nine miles of Atlanta. Dalton is the only fortified post now occupied by the enemy in North Georgia, and his force there is reported to consist of only two or three brigades. This shows of what value is Yankee "conquest," and by what frail tenure he holds the country he has overran, where he is only able to place here and there a straggling garrison.—*Ib.*

Louisiana.—It is stated in Mobile papers that Price is recruiting his army near Shrevepert. The Legislature of Louisiana is in session there. We have a renewal of the report from the region of the Mississippi of a contemplated attack upon Mobile. It is stated that thus far forty thousand yankee troops have passed down the river.—*Ib.*

Columbia.—There is still nothing definite from the city. Rumors conflict with each other in point of locality, but all tend to confirm the earlier statements made that fire has destroyed no small portion of the once beautiful capital of South Carolina.

Charlotte Bulletin.

The Chatham Railroad Company.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Chatham Railroad, on the 2d inst. The following gentlemen were elected Directors: K. P. Battle, G. W. Mordecai, Hon. J. M. Morehead, Col. J. M. Heck, Dr W. J. Hawkins, Thos. Webb and Bryan Ellis. At a meeting of the Directors subsequently held, Kemp P. Battle was re-elected President, and W. W. Vass, Treasurer of the Company.—*Ral. Confederate, 4th.*

Deep River Transportation Company—Henry A. London, Esq., has been elected a Director. We learn that the Company has commenced the repair of the dams and locks on Deep River, and will prosecute it with vigor.—*Ral. Conservative, 4th.*

Important Arrest—Detective Reece yesterday succeeded in arresting a soldier named John A. Newton, of the 34th N. C. Reg't, upon the charge of forging and selling soldiers' discharges, furloughs and retired papers. Accused is a one-legged soldier, and is supposed to belong to a regularly organised gang, the members of which for some months past have been roaming about the States of North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, selling the soldiers furloughs, discharges and retired papers. A large lot of the blanks were found in his possession, and he confesses that he has furloughed, discharged and retired over 4,000 soldiers. The prices charged for these papers were as follows: Discharges, $800; retired papers, $1,000; furloughs for 60 days, $400; for a less time than 60 days, $300. He confesses that the blanks found in his possession were printed in Augusta, Ga. Newton is a printer by profession, and had in his possession a quartermaster's stamp and inking apparatus. He was committed to the Castle.—*Richmond Enquirer, 2d.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Congress.—RICHMOND, March 3.—The Senate today passed the House bill to change the mode of filling vacancies among commissioned officers of companies &c. [Does away, we believe, with elections.] Also, the House bill providing for promotion of officers for distinguished valor and skill, or for competency and general merit. Also, a bill relieving from duty in hospitals stewards, &c. between 18 and 45, unless disabled or declared unfit for service. The House adopted a resolution to adjourn on the 8th, if the Senate agree. The conference committee on the currency bill was discharged from its further consideration—equivalent to rejection.

RICHMOND, March 4.—The Senate to day reconsidered the bill concerning Hospitals passed yesterday, and rejected it. The Tax Bill from the House was amended and passed, yeas 9, nays 5 The House was in secret session.

The Situation at Petersburg.—PETERSBURG, VA., March 3.—There are no movements on these lines. For three days there has been unbroken rest.

PETERSBURG, March 5.—Profound quiet prevails. The mud is thought deeper than has been known in this section of Virginia for 50 years. The transportation of artillery and army wagons is impossible.

From the United States.—RICHMOND, March 3.—U. S. papers of the 1st have a letter from Hatcher's Run, Feb. 25, stating that the yankee troops were under orders and expecting another move against the Southside road.

The Herald has a letter from Varina [on the James River] stating that Gen. Singleton, [the latest peace negotiator from yankee land to Richmond] does not permit the nature or extent of his mission to be known; but the writer has reason to believe his business is to see what he can do to bring about Peace.

Tennessee has ratified the new [emancipation] Constitution. Gold in New York 201.

RICHMOND, March 5—U. S. papers of the 2d and 3d say that the New Jersey Legislature has rejected the anti-slavery amendment to the Constitution by a tie vote.

An official statement claims the capture of 450 pieces of artillery at Charleston. The Herald's Charleston dispatches say that Columbia was committed to the flames on the 23d ult., by order of Gen. Sherman, in retaliation, citizens having fired on his troops while passing through the town.

A Washington telegram to the Herald says that Gen. Sheridan has dispatched an "investigating committee" to Lynchburg to ascertain the truth or falsity of reports relative to anticipated movements in Lee's army.

The Yankee House of Representatives has adopted an amendment to the civil appropriation bill providing [prohibiting] arbitrary arrests for military trial of civilians.

The New York City volunteering committee has been officially notified that unless recruiting increases and men are put in the army more rapidly the draft will be commenced.

Gov. Cannon of Delaware died on the 1st inst.

European News.—RICHMOND, March 3.—European advices to the 15th ult. report the Confederate steamer Olinde at Ferrol [on the Northwestern coast of Spain] on the 10th Feb'y.

RICHMOND, March 5.—European advices to the 17th say that Blair's peace mission made a commotion in business circles and caused a considerable decline in cotton &c. News of its failure produced a reaction.

In opening the French Chambers the Emperor's speech contained no reference to the war in America. The situation of affairs in Mexico was represented as satisfactory.

The Prussian Chamber of Deputies, in spite of ministerial influence, has passed a resolution in favor of repealing all laws to punish coalitions among working men.

Cardinal Wiseman died on the 15th ult.

The ram Olinde was still at Ferrol.

The War in Mexico.—RICHMOND, March 3.—The siege of Oaxaca was terminated on the 9th ult. by the surrender of the place with its Republican garrison of 7000 men to Marshal ——, in command of Maximilian's forces. Gen. Deas was killed.

Outrage in Petersburg.—PETERSBURG, March 5.—Mr. John Nash, an aged and well known citizen, was knocked down last night and robbed of $1000 and a gold watch. The party was arrested and the plunder recovered.

A Noble Offer—A citizen of Petersburg, through the Richmond Sentinel, offers to be "one of twenty-five to give two hundred thousand dollars each to pay Gen. Lee's army, and thus raise five millions; or, if this number cannot be had, you are authorised to say that this sum will be paid to any one Gen. Lee may designate. If the press will properly present this subject to the people, it is believed that there are patriotism and liberality sufficient to raise one hundred millions by contribution to the government. As to the *ability* there is *no question*. It is respectfully suggested that gentlemen who have their hearts in the cause, but do not feel able to contribute $200,000, might make contributions of $100,000, $50,000 and $25,000 each. Start the work and see what can be done."

Another.—A Lady in Lynchburg wishes to exchange a silver urn, which cost in Philadelphia $150 in gold, for that amount in specie to be expended in buying provisions for Gen. Lee's army.

Still More.—At Staunton, Va., 65 persons have pledged themselves to *give*, not to *sell*, to the government, 134 bbls. of flour, 7,075 lbs. of bacon, and $108,175 in money. And a committee was appointed to canvass the county for more.

Resignation of Mr. Rives.—Hon. W. C. Rives has been forced by ill health to resign his seat in the House of Representatives.

A Virginia Visitor to President Lincoln.—It was announced in the Northern papers some days ago that Roger A. Pryor had been released under the recent amnesty proclaimed at Washington, requiring neutrality from the parties and an obligation not to return to the South during the war. Mr. Pryor appears to be in Washington from the following despatch in a Northern paper: Colonel Forney and *Roger A. Pryor visited the President to-night.*

Richmond Examiner.

The Richmond papers state that Mr. Pryor had obtained Lincoln's consent to return, and was in a boat coming up James river.

MARRIED,

In Moore county, Jan'y 12th, by Elias Maness, Esq. Mr. JAMES M. GARNER to Miss ELIZA C. MURRAY.

Also, by the same, on the 17th Jan'y, Mr. SIMEON J. YOW to Miss LIZZIE HARRISON.

Also, by the same, on the 9th Feb'y, Mr. JOHN GARNER to Miss EMELINE CAGLE, all of Moore.

In Bladen county, at the residence of Thos. O. Brown, Esq., 22d Feb'y, by Rev. E. A. Yates, Mr. EDWARD J. MOORE to Miss EUNICE, daughter of the late A. A. Brown, all of Wilmington.

At the residence of the bride's father, Feb'y 22d, by Rev. P. H. Scogell, Lieutenant E. N. ROBESON to Miss ELMIRA DUNHAM, all of Bladen Co. N. C.

Presbyterian please copy.

In Sampson county, on the 2d inst., by Amos N. Hall, Esq., ROBERT HALL, Co. I, 20th Reg't N. C. T., to Miss PLEASANT, daughter of Daniel Autry, Esq.

DIED,

On the 4th October 1864, in the 22d year of his age, at Winder Hospital, Richmond, Va., of a wound received in a charge on the 1st October 1864, on the right of Petersburg near the Weldon R. R., Private LEMUEL SMITH, of Co. E, 44th N. C. Reg't, McRae's Brigade. He volunteered March 1st, 1862. He was a good soldier and did his duty on every occasion. He participated in the engagement at Bristoe Station, Oct. 14th, 1864, and was captured by the enemy. He remained in the enemy's hands till the early part of the campaign of 1864. He rejoined his regiment near Gaines' Farm on or about the 5th day of June, and participated with it in all the battles in which it was engaged from that date to Oct. 1st, when he received the wound which terminated his life.

In Sampson county, on the 2d day of Jan'y 1865, at the residence of John Fowler, Esq., Mr. HEZEKIAH McLEMORE, in the 39th year of his age. The deceased was a worthy member of the Baptist Church, he was a kind and affectionate husband and father, a good citizen and a dutiful soldier, he leaves a wife and two small children; besides a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn his death, though we mourn not as those that mourn without hope, for we have reason to believe that his soul is with Christ. A TRUE FRIEND,

FAST DAY.—We beg to remind our readers that Friday next is the day appointed by President Davis, at the request of Congress, "as a day of public fasting, humiliation and prayer, (with thanksgiving,) for "invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God."

As the President says:

"It is our solemn duty, at all times, and more especially in a season of public trial and adversity, to acknowledge our dependence on His mercy, and to bow in humble submission before His footstool, confessing our manifold sins, supplicating His gracious pardon, imploring His Divine help, and devoutly rendering thanks for the many and great blessings which He has vouchsafed to us.

"Let the hearts of our people turn contritely and trustfully unto God; let us recognise in His chastening hand the correction of a Father, and submissively pray that the trials and sufferings which have so long borne heavily upon us, may be turned away by his merciful love; that His sustaining grace be given to our people, and His divine wisdom imparted to our rulers; that the Lord of Hosts will be with our armies and fight for us against our enemies; and that He will graciously take our cause into His own hand and mercifully establish for us a lasting, just and honorable peace and independence.

"And let us not forget to render unto His holy name the thanks and praise which are so justly due for His great goodness, and for the many mercies which He has extended to us amid the trials and sufferings of protracted and bloody war."

PRISONERS RECAPTURED.—Quite a number of yankee prisoners, who had escaped from Florence, Charlotte, and other places, have been recaptured in this section of the State recently. We learn that on Thursday last, 7 were sent off from here, mostly officers. On that night, information having been received of a gang in the woods near this town, Lieut. McKenzie, of Maj. Rencher's Battalion, was despatched in search of them, and picked up eight, all officers, as follows:

Seneca Allen, Capt. Co. F, 85th Reg't N. Y. Vols.
O. McCall, 2d Lieut. Co. A, 103d Penn.
A. W. Fritchey, 1st Lieut. Co. A, 26th Mo. Vols.
W. L. Starweather, Capt. Co. D, 85th N. Y. Vols.
S. T. Andrews, Lieut. Co. F, " " "
Fletcher Smallip, Capt. Co D, 103d Pa., Vols.
D. M. Spence, 1st Lieut. Co. K, " " "
L. A. Butts, 1st Lieut. Co. K, 85th N. Y. Vols.

They escaped from Charlotte on the 15th Feb'y, traveled only at night, and as the weather was bad and many nights without a star visible to guide them, made very slow progress towards the coast.

THE NEGRO QUESTION.—An Officer in Lee's army writes:—

"As to putting negroes in the army, I cannot tell how the army regards it. In this Brigade I think there is pretty general opposition to it; but with a willingness for the measure to be put in operation *if Gen. Lee thinks it desirable.* I was bitterly opposed to it at first; but came to the conclusion, some weeks ago, that the bill would pass, and so began to educate my mind to think well of what I supposed would soon become a law of the land; and in this so well did I succeed that I believe I was a little disappointed when I saw in yesterday's papers that the bill was defeated in the Senate."

FOR THE OBSERVER

BRANCH GENERAL HOSPITAL, No. 6,
Fayetteville, N. C., March 4th, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—Well has it been said that man's last best gift was woman, and never was compliment more just or beautiful than when the learned Story remarked, "To the honor, the eternal honor of the sex be it said, that in the path of duty no sacrifice with them is too high or too dear; the voice of pleasure or power may pass by unheeded, but the voice of affliction never." And if that astute Lawyer, skilled in the faculty of discerning true nobleness of character, was able to speak thus, judging woman in her ordinary walks of life, what would he have thought if in these days of a Revolution he could behold her as the good Samaritan binding the wounds of the suffering soldiers, or as a ministering angel visiting the sick, supplying their wants, and with that characteristic delicacy of touch soothing the fevered brow. The women of the South, however, need no encomium, and the Confederacy may ever promptly point to them and say, "these ornaments are ours!" and to none is more praise due than to the patriotic ladies of Fayetteville, for since the establishment of this Hospital their labor has been unceasing, and insensible of gratitude must be the heart of that patient who can fail to be thankful or forget their many acts of kindness. Under the care of the gentlemanly Surgeon, Dr Drake, and the unbounded attention of the ladies, the sick and wounded have alike greatly improved.

Our noble Confederacy yet is, and by the blessing of God will continue to be; but should there be one craven in our midst, whose patriotism is on the wane or who begins to weary in well doing, a visit to this Hospital, and a knowledge of what the Ladies of Fayetteville have done and are doing, should cause every chord to strike afresh, and with renewed determination [illegible] rather than the homes of these our ministering angels should be polluted by the vile and ever to be contemned yankees. GRATITUDE.

FAYETTEVILLE MARKET.—March 6.

REVIEW OF THE MARKET.

Bacon 6 00 Pork 4 00. Lard 6 00.
Beef 2 50 to 3 00 per pound, retail.
Beeswax 6 00 Butter 10 00.
Cotton 1 00 to 1 25. Coffee 50 00.
Cotton Yarn—60 00 to 75 00 per bunch.
Copperas, $10 to $12. Dried Fruit $3.
Cotton Cards, Fayetteville make, $60 to $75 per pair
Eggs 4 00 per dozen.
Flour $500.
Fodder $15 to $20. Hay $15. Shucks $15.
Fire-wood 15 00 per bu.
Fayetteville 4-4 Sheetings, 6 50 by bale; 3 4 do. 5 00.
Grain—Corn $30 to $35 Wheat $50. Rye $35 00
Oats 15 00. Peas $30 00 to $5 00.
Green Apples 30 00 to 50 00 per bushel.
Hides—Green 3 00. dry 6 00 to 7 00.
Iron—Swedes $7 50 to $8, country made $4 to $5.
Leather $7 50 to 40 00.
Liquors—Corn Whiskey $125 00. Apple and Peach Brandy $125 00.
Molasses, country made, 35 00 by bbl.
Nails 5 00 to 6 00 per lb.
Onions $35 per bushel. Powder $50 per lb.
Potatoes—Irish $25 bush; sweet $16.
Rice 2 50
Brown Sugar 20 00
Soda 15 00 to 20 00 per lb. Shot $10 to $12.
Soap—Family Bar 5 00 per lb., Toilet 8 00 to 10 00.
Salt 95 00 per bushel.
Spirits Turpentine 5 00 per gallon.
Tallow 7 00. Wool $10.

Correspondent. R. L. PEMBERTON.

OFFICE POST Q M.,
FAYETTEVILLE, March 3, 1865.

To Tithe Agents in Richmond County.

YOU will collect as soon as possible all TITHES in your county, particularly Bacon. Do not wait for Assessors.

Farmers are requested to deliver as soon as possible.

J. M. McGOWAN, Capt
15 2t*14 and Post Q M., 4th Cong. Dist., N. C.

Office County Agent,

Fayetteville, N. C., March 2, 1865.

THE producers of Cumberland are urgently requested to bring in their Tithes to this depot as early as possible, especially Bacon, whether thoroughly cured or not. This article is much needed by the Army Now is the time to display patriotism

J. M. WILLIAMS, Ag't
15 4t*4½ County of Cumberland, N. C.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY give fair warning to those persons whose teams have been impressed, that if their teams are not sent in promptly, a guard will be sent for them

J. B SOUTHERLAND,
Purchasing and Impressing Ag't 4th Con. Dist.
March 6 14

PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE,

FAYETTEVILLE, March 4, 1865.

AFTER this date, this office will be open from 10 o'clock, A M., to 3 o'clock, A. M; from 9 o'clock A M., to 1 o'clock, P M; and from 3 o'clock P M., to 8 o'clock, P M.

BENJ ROBINSON,
14 Capt. and Provost Marshal.

Fayetteville Arsenal & Armory,

FEBRUARY 28, 1865.

ALL Contractors and Employees of Contractors to this Arsenal and Armory, will report forthwith to this Post for duty All who can procure horses will bring them with them for mounted service

14 4t P L CHILDS, Lt. Col Comd'g.

Headquarters 7th Reg't H. G.,

MAGNOLIA, Feb'y 26, 1865.

ALL absentees from this command are ordered to report immediately to me at this place.

14-3tpd JAS. G. BURR, Col.

Camp near Cape Fear River,

HEADQ'RS C. S. NAVAL FORCES, March 2, 1865.

NOTICE

ALL absentees from this command, who report themselves on board C. S. steamer "Patrick Henry" at Richmond within twenty days from this proclamation will not be punished. Those who remain absent will be arrested and treated as deserters.

J. R. TUCKER,
16-3t Flag Officer Commanding, &c.

A CARD.

THE undersigned, a native of France, has been since 1851 a sojourner in this country, and has been connected with the army of the Confederate States since the beginning of the war He has stood among the gallant soldiers of the Confederacy on some of the most illustrious battle fields of this revolution, and has shed his blood which has been freely offered to the cause of independence in the land. Turning back and looking to the sacrifices of the past—considering the momentous issues which hang upon the present hour, though disaster and reverses have been heavy and frequent, and gloom has settled like a cloud in darkness over so many who once were bright and hopeful—let the country rally. Let every man rally to the flag, let high honor be given to those who have not despaired of the Republic Let there who have left their brave and faithful comrades in the army and who are now exhorted so earnestly to return, at once accept the offer of pardon made by the Government, and by good conduct in the future atone for the past and obscure the strain with which base dishonor has blurred their names. To the undersigned many of these were personally known in the army, and to them he appeals to save themselves and aid the future of their country. Rally, rally, brave and true men! Cast out fear and despondency, and as the sun rises above the mists and clouds, giving light and comfort, so will be the glory of your triumph. Col. L. SQUNARE.

March 6. 14 3t

WANTED,

AT No. 17 Market Square
GOLD AND SILVER;
BANK NOTES;
N. C TREASURY NOTES.
March 6. 15 3t

LIST OF LETTERS

REMAINING in the Post Office at Fayetteville, N. C., March 6, 1865. When called for please say they are advertised.

Amy Armstrong, G D Caddell, Miss R M Carver, A S Collins, William Curtis, Dorday Carter, Miss Allen Bradly, Mrs Mary Branch, D T Barlow, Miss Mary Bullock, Mrs Eliza Bowden, Mrs A M Bernard, Miss Flora Bryant, J S Booten, W A Barnes, Miss Caroline Burnett Miss Sarow Daniels, Miss R T Deal, Patrick Garmon, Melvin Graves, Miss Elizabeth Gibson, Miss Har

THE SIEGE OF LONDONDERRY.

One of the most remarkable military events recorded in history is the struggle for Londonderry, an Irish town, which for 105 days in the spring and summer of 1689 resisted the French and Irish armies engaged in the effort to re-establish the government of King James, superseded in 1688 by William and Mary. That our people may see what brave men struggling for freedom in past ages have endured, and by endurance accomplished, we copy the closing pages of Macaulay's account in his third volume of English history. The siege began in April. The defences were weak; provisions were scanty; her Governor was a traitor; an incensed tyrant and a great army were at her gates. But within her walls were brave men—7,000 in all capable of bearing arms; and those assisted by as brave women fought through April and May with decided advantage over the foe. But food was scarce, and the besiegers knowing it, closely blockaded the town by land and by water, abandoned fighting, and resolved to try the effect of hunger. The Historian says:

Within the walls the distress had become extreme. So early as the eighth of June horseflesh was almost the only meat which could be purchased; and of horseflesh the supply was scanty. It was necessary to make up the deficiency with tallow; and even tallow was doled out with a parsimonious hand.

On the fifteenth of June a gleam of hope appeared. The sentinels on the top of the Cathedral saw sails nine miles off in the bay of Lough Foyle. Thirty vessels of different sizes were counted. Signals were made from the steeples and returned from the mast heads, but were imperfectly understood on both sides. At last a messenger from the fleet eluded the Irish sentinels dived under the boom, and informed the garrison that Kirke had arrived from England with troops, arms, ammunition, and provisions, to relieve the city.

In Londonderry expectation was at the height; but a few hours of feverish joy were followed by weeks of misery. Kirke thought it unsafe to make any attempt, either by land or by water, on the lines of the besiegers, and retired to the entrance of Lough Foyle, where, during several weeks, he lay inactive.

And now the pressure of famine became every day more severe. A strict search was made in all the recesses of all the houses of the city; and some provisions, which had been concealed in cellars by people who had since died or made their escape, were discovered and carried to the magazines. The stock of cannon balls was almost exhausted; and their place was supplied by brickbats coated with lead. Pestilence began, as usual, to make its appearance in the train of hunger. Fifteen officers died of fever in one day. The Governor, Baker, was among those who sank under the disease. His place was supplied by a Col. John Mitchelburne.

Meanwhile it was known at Dublin that Kirke and his squadron were on the coast of Ulster. Consternation was great at the Castle. Even before the news arrived, Avaux had given it as his opinion that Richard Hamilton was unequal to the difficulties of the situation. It had therefore been resolved that Rosen should take the chief command. He was now sent down with all speed.

On the 19th of June he arrived at the headquarters of the besieging army. At first he attempted to undermine the walls; but his plan was discovered, and he was compelled to abandon it after a sharp fight, in which more than a hundred of his men were slain. Then his fury rose to a strange pitch. He, an old soldier, a Marshal of France in expectancy, trained in the school of the greatest generals, accustomed, during many years, to scientific war, to be baffled by a mob of country gentlemen, farmers, shopkeepers, who were protected only by a wall which any good engineer would at once have pronounced untenable! He raved, he blasphemed, in a language of his own, made up of all the dialects spoken from the Baltic to the Atlantic. He would raze the city to the ground: he would spare no living thing; no, not the young girls; not the babies at the breast. As to the leaders, death was too light a punishment for them; he would rack them: he would roast them alive. In his rage he ordered a shell to be flung into the town with a letter containing a horrible menace. He would, he said, gather into one body all the Protestants who had remained at their homes between Charlemont and the sea, old men, women, children, many of them near in blood and affection to the defenders of Londonderry. No protection, whatever might be the authority by which it had been given, should be respected. The multitude thus brought together should be driven under the walls of Londonderry, and should there be starved to death in the sight of their countrymen, their friends, their kinsmen. This was no idle threat. Parties were instantly sent out in all directions to collect victims. At dawn, on the morning of the 21 of July, hundreds of Protestants, who were charged with no crime, who were incapable of bearing arms, and many of whom had protections granted by James, were dragged to the gates of the city. It was imagined that the piteous sight would quell the spirit of the colonists. But the only effect was to rouse that spirit to still greater energy. An order was immediately put forth that no man should utter the word Surrender on pain of death; and no man uttered that word. Several prisoners of high rank were in the town. Hitherto they had been well treated, and had received as good rations as were measured out to the garrison. They were now closely confined. A gallows was erected on one of the bastions; and a message was conveyed to Rosen, requesting him to send a confessor instantly to prepare his friends for death. The prisoners in great dismay wrote to the savage Livonian, but received no answer. They then addressed themselves to their countryman, Richard Hamilton. They were willing, they said, to shed their blood for their King; but they thought it hard to die the ignominious death of thieves in consequence of the barbarity of their own companions in arms. Hamilton, though a man of lax principles, was not cruel. He had been disgusted by the inhumanity of Rosen, but, being only second in command, could not venture to express publicly all that he thought. He however remonstrated strongly. Some Irish officers felt on this occasion as it was natural that brave men should feel, and declared, weeping with pity and indignation, that they should never cease to have in their ears the cries of the poor women and children who had been driven at the point of the pike to die of famine between the camp and the city. Rosen persisted during forty-eight hours. In that time many unhappy creatures perished; but Londonderry held out as resolutely as ever; and he saw that his crime was likely to produce nothing but hatred and obloquy. He at length gave way, and suffered the survivors to withdraw. The garrison then took down the gallows which had been erected on the bastion.

* * * Rosen was recalled to Dublin; and Richard Hamilton was again left in the chief command. He tried gentler means than those which had brought so much reproach on his predecessor. No trick, no lie, which was thought likely to discourage the starving garrison was spared. One day a great shout was raised by the whole Irish camp. The defenders of Londonderry were soon informed that the army of James was rejoicing on account of the fall of Enniskillen. They were told that they had now no chance of being relieved, and were exhorted to save their lives by capitulating. They consented to negotiate. But what they asked was, that they should be permitted to depart armed and in military array, by land or water at their choice. They demanded hostages for the exact fulfilment of these conditions, and insisted that the hostages should be sent on board of the fleet which lay in Lough Foyle. Such terms Hamilton durst not grant: the Governors would abate nothing: the treaty was broken off, and the conflict recommenced.

By this time July was far advanced; and the state of the city was, hour by hour, becoming more frightful. The number of the inhabitants had been thinned more by famine and disease than by the fire of the enemy. Yet that fire was sharper and more constant than ever. One of the gates was beaten in: one of the bastions was laid in ruins; but the breaches made by day were repaired by night with indefatigable activity. Every attack was still repelled. But the fighting men of the garrison were so much exhausted that they could scarcely keep their legs. Several of them, in the act of striking at the enemy, fell down from mere weakness. A very small quantity of grain remained, and was doled out by mouthfuls. The stock of salted hides was considerable, and by gnawing them the garrison appeased the rage of hunger. Dogs, fattened on the blood of the slain who lay unburied around the town, were luxuries which few could afford to purchase. The price of a whelp's paw was five shillings and sixpence. Nine horses were still alive, and but barely alive. They were so lean that little meat was likely to be found upon them. It was, however, determined to slaughter them for food. The people perished so fast that it was impossible for the survivors to perform the rites of sepulture. There was scarcely a cellar in which some corpse was not decaying. Such was the extremity of distress, that the rats who came to feast in those hideous dens were eagerly hunted and greedily devoured. A small fish caught in the river was not to be purchased with money. The only price for which such a treasure could be obtained was some handfuls of oatmeal. Leprosies, such as strange and unwholesome diet engenders, made existence a constant torment. The whole city was poisoned by the stench exhaled from the bodies of the dead and of the half dead.

That there should be fits of discontent and insubordination among men enduring such misery was inevitable. At one moment it was suspected that Walker had laid up somewhere a secret store of food, and was reveling in private, while he exhorted others to suffer resolutely for the good cause. His house was strictly examined; his innocence was fully proved: he regained his popularity; and the garrison, with death in near prospect, thronged to the cathedral to hear him preach, drank in his earnest eloquence with delight, and went forth from the house of God with haggard faces and tottering steps, but with spirit still unsubdued. There were, indeed, some secret plottings. A very few obscure traitors opened communications with the enemy. But it was necessary that all such dealings should be carefully concealed. None dared to utter publicly any words save words of defiance and stubborn resolution. Even in that extremity the general cry was "No surrender." And there were not wanting voices which, in low tones added, "First the horses and hides; and then the prisoners; and then each other." It was afterwards related, half in jest, yet not without a horrible mixture of earnest, that a corpulent citizen, whose bulk presented a strange contrast to the skeletons which surrounded him, thought it expedient to conceal himself from the numerous eyes which followed him with cannibal looks whenever he appeared in the streets.

It was no slight aggravation of the sufferings of the garrison that all this time the English ships were seen far off in Lough Foyle. Communication between the fleet and the city was almost impossible. One diver who had attempted to pass the boom was drowned. Another was hanged. The language of signals was hardly intelligible. On the 13th of July, however, a piece of paper sewed up in a cloth button came to Walker's hands. It was a letter from Kirke, and contained assurances of speedy relief. But more than a fortnight of intense misery had since elapsed; and the hearts of the most sanguine were sick with deferred hope. By no art could the provisions which were left be made to hold out two days more.

Just at this time Kirke received a despatch from England, which contained positive orders that Londonderry should be relieved. He accordingly determined to make an attempt which, as far as appears, he might have made, with at least an equally fair prospect of success, six weeks earlier.

Among the merchant ships which had come to Lough Foyle under his convoy was one called the Mountjoy. The master, Micajah Browning, a native of Londonderry, had brought from England a large cargo of provisions. He had, it is said, repeatedly remonstrated against the inaction of the armament. He now eagerly volunteered to take the first risk of succouring his fellow citizens; and his offer was accepted. Andrew Douglas, master of the Phœnix, who had on board a great quantity of meal from Scotland, was willing to share the danger and the honor. The two merchantmen were to be escorted by the Dartmouth frigate of 36 guns, commanded by Captain John Leake, afterwards an admiral of great fame.

It was the thirtieth of July. The sun had just set: the evening sermon in the cathedral was over; and the heartbroken congregation had separated, when the sentinels on the tower saw the sails of three vessels coming up the Foyle. Soon there was a stir in the Irish camp. The besiegers were on the alert for miles along both shores. The ships were in extreme peril: for the river was low; and the only navigable channel ran very near to the left bank, where the head quarters of the enemy had been fixed, and where the batteries were most numerous. Leake performed his duty with a skill and spirit worthy of his noble profession, exposed his frigate to cover the merchantmen, and used his guns with great effect. At length the little squadron came to the place of peril. Then the Mountjoy took the lead, and went right at the boom. The huge barricade cracked and gave way: but the shock was such that the Mountjoy rebounded, and stuck in the mud. A yell of triumph rose from the banks: the Irish rushed to their boats, and were preparing to board; but the Dartmouth poured on them a well directed broadside, which threw them into disorder. Just then the Phœnix dashed at the breach which the Mountjoy had made, and was in a moment within the fence. Meantime the tide was rising fast. The Mountjoy began to move, and soon passed safe through the broken stakes and floating spars. But her brave master was no more. A shot from one of the batteries had struck him; and he died by the most enviable of all deaths, in sight of the city which was his birthplace, which was his home, and which had just been saved by his courage and self-devotion from the most frightful form of destruction. The night had closed in before the conflict at the boom began; but the flash of the guns was seen, and the noise heard, by the lean and ghastly multitude which covered the walls of the city. When the Mountjoy grounded, and when the shout of triumph rose from the Irish on both sides of the river, the hearts of the besieged died within them. One who endured the unutterable anguish of that moment has told us that they looked fearfully livid in each other's eyes. Even after the barricade had been passed, there was a terrible half hour of suspense. It was ten o'clock before the ships arrived at the quay. The whole population was there to welcome them. A screen made of casks filled with earth was hastily thrown up to protect the landing place from the batteries on the other side of the river; and then the work of unloading began. First were rolled on shore barrels containing six thousand bushels of meal. Then came great cheeses, casks of beef, flitches of bacon, kegs of butter, sacks of peas and biscuit, ankers of brandy.

Not many hours before, half a pound of tallow and three quarters of a pound of salted hide had been weighed out with niggardly care to every fighting man. The ration which each now received was three pounds of flour, two pounds of beef and a pint of peas. It is easy to imagine with what tears grace was said over the suppers of that evening. There was little sleep on either side of the wall. The bonfires shone bright along the whole circuit of the ramparts. The Irish guns continued to roar all night: and all night the bells of the rescued city made answer to the Irish guns with a peal of joyous defiance. Through the whole of the thirty-first of July the batteries of the enemy continued to play. But soon after the sun had again gone down, flames were seen arising from the camp; and, when the first of August dawned, a line of smoking ruins marked the site lately occupied by the huts of the besiegers; and the citizens saw far off the long column of pikes and standards retreating up the left bank of the Foyle towards Strabane.

So ended this great siege, the most memorable in the annals of the British isles. It had lasted a hundred and five days. The garrison had been reduced from about 7,000 effective men to about 3,000. The loss of the besiegers cannot be precisely ascertained. Walker estimated it at 8,000.

THE NEW CAMPAIGN.

From the Richmond Examiner.

The enemy is now gathering all the available forces from all yankee armies and garrisons, and directing them in one combined movement against Richmond. Sherman advancing through South Carolina while Beauregard slowly retreats before him towards Charlotte—Foster, or some other commanding Foster's troops, making demonstrations with heavy force on the Roanoke and Neuse rivers eastward, while rumor says that the yankee force in East Tennessee is, at the same time, to cross the Alleghany and come down into North Carolina by the west, thus, advancing both by way of Weldon and by way of Salisbury, attempting to take Beauregard in flank, or even to cut him off by uniting in his rear; while Grant waits patiently within his fortifications for Sherman's appearance on the line of the Danville railroad; that so the whole accumulated power of the Federal hosts may close in on Richmond, cut off its supplies and compel its surrender.

It is all extremely fine, but not new. We have heard of something of this sort before; and even more than once. It is one of those magnificent *combinations*, extending over a vast space, which now form the well known characteristic of yankee warfare. These superhuman combinations satisfy and exalt the imagination; but they have the disadvantage of always failing in some one essential part. In a newspaper programme, on the map, and, we dare say, in the general orders assigning to each army and commander his special duty, all to be accomplished by a given day—this sort of campaign undoubtedly looks majestic; only when set a going and brought into collision with hard facts, it somehow becomes dislocated. Thus the contemplation of those many armies approaching from all points of the compass, and bound to keep time, has lost a good deal of its intimidating effect. What is this campaign but a repetition of that of last year? Then, also, Butler with fifty thousand men was to advance upon Richmond by the South, Grant with a hundred and fifty thousand from the North, Hunter with fifteen thousand men from the West, taking Lynchburg on his way, and destroying the railroads both beyond and on this side of that city. Of course our supplies were to be cut off: and of course Richmond was to surrender; and Butler was to have been reigning over us some time in July last, at the latest. What has become of those mighty armies? Nine months have barely passed—and the broken and wearied remnants of them are scarcely sufficient to provoke an occasional skirmish at some point upon our lines, which no longer causes an alarm bell to ring in Richmond. Grant demands a hundred thousand men; and as for Butler, now "planting his cabbages" at native Lowell, no Confederate names him without a laugh. Yet those commanders and their hosts seemed formidable enough to us nine months ago; especially as portrayed to us in the eloquent and menacing paragraphs of yankee war correspondents, who are really learning to write campaigns in a military slang quite imposing to persons in civil life. Accordingly, in May and June last, many weak-minded citizens were preparing to quit Richmond; and Mr. Memminger, ever mindful of the safety of his interesting Treasury employees, packed them off to *Columbia*. "Now am I in Arden," quoth Touchstone. "More fool I. When I was at home I was in a better place." That was indeed one of the great financial strokes of Mr. Memminger.

Now there is not at this moment so much to alarm us in reality as there was last May. It is true, we have not so many troops; but neither has our enemy by a great deal. On that occasion, too, General Butler could and did land his forces at City Point, without any effort or loss; but this year Sherman has to fight his way through many a swamp, and take or turn many a battery, and leave many a blue coated corpse behind him ere he can hope to see a Virginia railroad. Barring some enormous blunder of course, it seems evident that Sherman has before him a much more difficult and perilous part of the grand campaign than Butler had last year. And in the meantime his devastating march through South Carolina is no more conquering that State than his great raid through Georgia has converted Georgians to the "Union."

In the meantime, let it not enter the thoughts of any citizen of Richmond that the city is in any greater danger this spring than it was the spring before. There is the strongest probability, too—all the omens indicate—that this will be the last campaign against the capital of Virginia.

Chatham Railroad.—We know of nothing of more importance to the Confederate Government, at this time, than the early completion of the Chatham Railroad. If any portion of our army should be transferred to this vicinity, its value as a line of communication would be incalculable. We all know what would have been the situation of affairs but for the completion of the Piedmont road, and it may be that the Chatham road will be of inestimable value to our Government. The work should be pushed forward with increased energy. The road is all graded, and the iron can, we think, be easily obtained from some of the roads now seriously threatened by the enemy.

Fayetteville Telegraph.

Sherman's Force.—A Nashville letter to the Chicago Journal says that Sherman's army (including Foster's coast forces) numbers 103,000.

The force under Sherman's immediate command has been variously stated at from 32,000 to 60,000.

"To exhort to sacrifice—to stimulate to exertion—to shame despondency—to divert from untimely concessions—are stern but needful duties to be discharged in gloomy times."—*Burke.*

NEW LAWS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

The following "bill to regulate the business of conscription" has passed both houses of Congress:

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That for the purpose of conducting the business of conscription, there shall be assigned to each State, by the President, a General officer, who shall report to the Secretary of War through an Assistant Adjutant General, to be assigned in the office of the Adjutant and Inspector General, to the duty of receiving returns and reports and issuing all orders in relation to conscription.

Sec. 2. All applications for exemption and detail, except as hereinafter provided, shall be decided by the General officers having charge of the business of conscription in the several States. Appeals may be taken from their decisions to the Secretary of War, but during the pendency of such appeals, the applicants shall be liable to military service.

Sec. 3. There shall be assigned from the Invalid Corps, or from officers certified by the proper medical boards to be unfit for active service in the field, a sufficient number of enrolling officers who shall report to and be under the immediate direction and control of the General officers conducting the business of conscription in the several States.

Sec. 4. All conscripts shall be examined by the medical boards of the army, after joining the commands in the field to which they may be respectively assigned, and every discharge granted by an army medical board shall be final and shall relieve the party from all military service in the future, when the disability is permanent, and the cause of it is set forth in the discharge.

Sec. 5. If any conscript shall furnish to the enrolling officer of his county a certificate, under oath, from a respectable physician or from any army Surgeon, that he is unable to travel to the command to which he may be assigned without serious prejudice to his health, a furlough shall be granted him until the next meeting of the medical board, hereinafter provided for.

Sec. 6. There shall be assigned to each Congressional District a medical board, consisting of three army Surgeons, who, after due notice of the time and place of their meeting, shall visit each county of the district at least once in two months, and shall examine for discharge or recommendation for light duty, all conscripts who have been furloughed under the provisions of the preceding section. Every discharge granted by the said medical board shall be final and shall relieve the party from all military service in the future, when the disability is permanent and the cause of it is set forth in the certificates.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of all officers and others employed in the military service of the Confederate States, and not actually in the field, nor attached to any army in the field, including quartermasters and commissaries, commanders of posts, provost marshals, officers of the ordnance, nitre and mining and medical bureaus, and others, to make certified monthly returns to the nearest conscript officer, of the names, ages and physical condition of all persons employed in the service, which returns shall be forwarded to the General officer controlling conscription in the State.

Sec. 8. For the enforcement of the duties imposed by this act upon the general officers controlling conscription in the several States, such detachments of the reserve forces as they may deem necessary, shall be placed at their disposal.

Sec. 9. In order to secure the production of grain and provisions necessary for the use of the army and the families of soldiers, such overseers, farmers or planters as were not enrolled in the military service on the 17th day of February, 1864, and who will be more useful to the country in the pursuits of agriculture than in the military service, shall be detailed upon the terms to be prescribed by the Secretary of War, under the direction of the President. And in order to ascertain what persons should be detailed under this act, for the purposes aforesaid, there shall be appointed by the President in each county, district or parish, an agricultural board, consisting of three farmers or planters over the age of forty-five years, to whom shall be addressed every application for the detail of ——, overseer, farmer or planter, in their respective counties, districts or parishes, and whose duty it shall be to enquire and report upon the merits of such application. And if a majority of said board shall approve the same, they shall forward it, together with the reasons for their approval, to the general officer controlling conscription in the State, and if he approve such application, the detail shall be allowed. If the General officer of conscription shall disapprove such application, the applicant shall have the right of appeal to the Secretary of War, and if the said board shall disapprove such application, their decision shall be final, and no right of appeal shall exist.

Sec. 10. The bureau of conscription, the camps of instruction, and the office of commandant of conscripts, are hereby abolished, and all rules and regulations of the War Department inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

The following bill "to diminish the number of exempts and details" has passed Congress.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That so much of the act to organize forces to serve during the war, approved February 17, 1864, as exempts one person as overseer or agriculturist on each farm or plantation upon which there are, at specified times, fifteen able bodied field hands, between the ages of sixteen and fifty, upon certain conditions, is hereby repealed; Provided, That exemptions of persons over forty-five years of age may be granted under the provisions of the act aforesaid, and said persons shall be liable to military service upon the expiration of the time for which they received exemption by reason of having executed bonds for one year from the date thereof.

Sec. 2. No exemption or detail shall be granted by the President or Secretary of War, by virtue of said act, except of persons lawfully reported by a board of surgeons unable to perform active service in the field, persons over the age of forty years, and of laborers, artizans, mechanics, and of persons of scientific skill employed by, or working for, the Government, State or Confederate, and shown by proper testimony to be such laborers, artizans, mechanics or persons of scientific skill, and with the same exceptions, all exemptions and details heretofore granted by the President or Secretary of the War, by virtue of said act are hereby revoked.

Sec. 3. That all skilled artizans and mechanics who are engaged in the employment of the Government of the Confederate States are hereby exempt from all military service during the time they are so employed: Provided, That persons whose services, labor or skill may be more usefully employed for the public good at home than in the field, to be determined by the Secretary of War, on the sworn testimony of disinterested witnesses, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, and names of all persons so exempted or detailed, together with the reason for the detail, shall be submitted to Congess at the beginning of each session.

Yankee Confiscation of Rebel Property.—Yankee papers of the 24th say that one house of Congress has passed by 1 majority the bill repealing that portion of the confiscation act providing for the forfeiture of rebel land titles beyond the life of the present owners.

YANKEE SPECULATIONS.

The New York World of the 20th has the following view of "the situation," upon which Lee, Johnston and Beauregard are likely to put another face:

"Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, has fallen into the hands of the most enterprising of our generals, without a contest. The easy advance northward from this point will render Charleston, the cradle of the rebellion, untenable; and the Confederate troops will be immediately (if they have not been already) withdrawn from it; for the rebels cannot afford to sacrifice a garrison. Gen. Sherman's bloodless march through Georgia was not so surprising, considering the miscalculation made by the rebels sending Hood to threaten Nashville. They supposed this movement would draw Sherman in that direction, and the country between Atlanta and Savannah was left undefended. But that Sherman's advance northward from Savannah is also unopposed is a fact of another color. View it how we will, it is a striking demonstration of the military weakness of the rebels. They have, of course, known, ever since Christmas, that Sherman would not keep his powerful army unemployed, for any length of time, as a mere garrison of Savannah. It was certain that he would soon resume offensive operations; it was improbable that he would retrace his steps; and next to certain, therefore, that he would move in a northwardly direction. Why, then, thus forewarned, and with so much time for preparation, did not the rebels confront and oppose him? But the intelligible answer can be given; and that is, they have not men enough to form two considerable armies; that they cannot oppose Sherman, at that distance, without abandoning Richmond.

"We are more and more confirmed in the opinion which we expressed on Saturday, that the immediate policy of the rebels is concentration with a view to deliver a great battle. It is out of the question, with the number of troops they have, for them to attempt to hold several distant, scattered towns and strategic positions. They would thereby expose themselves to be annihilated in detail by ineffective resistance to superior numbers. It is a necessity of their reduced condition that they gather in all their available forces for one tremendous battle, on which they will stake their whole existence as an organized military power.

"Including Beauregard's army, the garrisons of Charleston, Wilmington, and Lynchburg, and the troops in the Valley, Lee must have at least 125,000 veteran soldiers—a formidable army. Against Sherman alone, or against Grant alone, this army, fighting in one body with advantages of ground, might render the result of a hotly contested battle doubtful.

"But can such a battle be so fought? Beauregard, as we judge from the imperfect accounts that have reached us, is retreating upon Richmond by the interior line of railroad by the way of Greensboro' and Danville. We suppose there can be no doubt of his ability to reach the vicinity of Richmond by this route without molestation. He could not safely take a route nearer the seaboard, as he would thereby expose himself to an attack by Schofield, advancing against him from Wilmington. The rebels suppose that Sherman will advance next on Charlotte; and should he go thence to Salisbury, and thence to Greensboro', the rebel army would be cooped up in Virginia and completely isolated. But we judge it more than probable that Sherman will keep near the coast, and effect a junction with Schofield, as he marches past Wilmington. This would evince more caution in looking to the safety of his army; but, on the other hand, it would leave a way of retreat open to Lee, beaten or victorious, by which he could withdraw from Richmond into the interior of the South. But whatever may be the line of march selected by Sherman in his northward advance, he may count upon a battle some days before he can make a junction with Grant. It is inconceivable that the rebels will not attempt to fight one of our two great armies while the other is yet too far off to be within supporting distance. Lee will more probably elect to attack Sherman, and for this purpose will be likely to withdraw his army from Richmond and unite with Beauregard, as the latter falls back. As soon as this movement is attempted, Grant will, of course, avail himself of the opportunity to fall upon Lee's rear and harrass his retreat. If Lee then, Sherman being still distant, makes a skilful selection of ground and gives Grant battle, he attains the main object of his present strategy, which is to measure his whole concentrated force against one of our armies not supported by the other.

"The present military policy is on both sides, concentration. We have a great preponderance in numbers and no inferiority in skill. We can be beaten only by being outgeneraled; which is not within the range of probability. Sherman, united with Schofield, would be probably more than a match for Lee's whole army; and if Grant should remain behind his intrenchments and give Lee the advantage of a day or two's march, he might still come up in time to be a troublesome neighbor on the day of battle. The prospect is in the highest degree hopeful and encouraging; but a terribly desperate battle is not far in the future."

Sherman's Route.—From the facts that Gen'l Schofield has been sent to the coast of North Carolina with his corps; that General Grant has recently been a visitor to the headquarters of the corps operating against Wilmington, and that there are movements in all the armies, including Meade's and Schofield's, all tending toward the dismemberment of the grand line of rebel railroad communication commencing at Richmond, passing through Goldsboro', Wilmington, Florence, and Columbia, we think that the purpose of General Sherman is clear, and that his intention is to occupy and possess every point upon the grand line of railroad communication which may be properly termed the "Atlantic coast route."

N. Y. World, 20th.

Kentucky follows Delaware.—Kentucky has refused to ratify the anti slavery amendment.

10,000 Pieces New Music,

JUST received, which will be sent to any address on receipt of our Catalogue prices.

We have now become the SOLE AGENTS in North Carolina, for Geo. Dunn & Co. of Richmond, who are the *largest* and *finest* Music Publishers in the South.

All orders to them, from this State, will be filled at our Store.

☞ One half off to the Trade.

Apply for Catalogues of Books, Music, &c.

BRANSON & FARRAR,
Raleigh, N. C.
Sept. 5 66tf

State of North Carolina,

ROBESON COUNTY.—In Equity.

John McPhaul vs. William McPhaul, Calvin McPhaul, Neill McPhaul, Milton McPhaul, James McPhaul, Catharine McPhaul and Malloy McPhaul.

Petition for Sale of Land for Partition.

IT appearing to my satisfaction that William McPhaul and Calvin McPhaul reside beyond the limits of the State of North Carolina; they are hereby notified to be and appear before the Judge of the Court of Equity for the County of Robeson, at the Court House in Lumberton, on the fourth Monday in March next, then and there to plead, answer or demur to the petition against them filed, or the same will be taken pro confesso, and a decree entered accordingly.

Witness, N. A. McLean, Clerk of our said Court of Equity for Robeson County, at office in Lumberton the 26th January 1865.

62-3tpd N. A. McLEAN, C. & M. E.

THE EVACUATION OF WILMINGTON

FOR THE OBSERVER.

BIVOUAC 8TH N. C. REG'T,
Duplin County, N. C., Feb'y 25, 1865.

Messrs. Editors:—As the mail will leave this evening I have concluded to give you an imperfect sketch of the evacuation of Wilmington. On the 19th eighteen gun boats and one monitor moved up and opened fire on Fort Anderson, a small earthwork on the west side of Cape Fear, and nearly opposite the Sugar Loaf. This fire was kept up all day and at times it was very severe. The Fort replied at intervals, but it was evident that the disparity in forces was too great for the gallant little Fort to stand long. During the night shots were fired from the fleet at intervals of half an hour. The yankee Infantry had also advanced near the Fort, and early on Sunday morning the 20th inst, the Fort was evacuated on account of being no longer tenable, which of course compelled the lines on the Sugar Loaf, occupied by Hoke's division, to be evacuated also, which was done on the 20th. We fell back to within five miles of Wilmington, stopped and threw up works and waited for the approach of the yankees. On the 21st they came up, and thinking the discomfited Rebs had taken their final flight, did not wish to stop for our skirmish line, but run it in, when lo! to their surprise a Battery of Artillery opens on them and the sharp crack of rifles from our line of battle caused them to halt, or rather perform the feat a la skedaddle. Next day, the 22d, the yankees on the west side of Cape Fear moved on Gen. Hagood, and outnumbering him greatly, succeeded in forcing him back, capturing some prisoners from him. Next morning, the 22d, we again took up the retreat, we started about 3 A. M, and as we passed through the town nothing could exceed the death-like stillness that reigned around. Lights could be seen from but few windows, and these appeared to be the last rays of departing hope; while on the other side of the river could be seen the red flicker and glare of some buildings which had been fired the night before. On the north side of the town arose a dense black smoke, so black and compact as to appear to come from the infernal regions. Chanticleer crowed in his usual voice to welcome the beautiful day, which alas was to be the beginning of sorrows to the people of this patriotic city. The watch dog howled piteously, as though he knew his rights were to be encroached on by a Northern invader. We pursued our line of march toward North East river. We had scarce crossed when the yankees appeared on the opposite bank. Skirmishing ensued. The Railroad bridge was burned, the pontoons destroyed, works thrown up, and we waited for them to cross the river if they could, where we could at last meet them on equal footing. Next morning we again took up our line of march towards Goldsboro' and marched 15 miles without molestation, when, tired and foot sore, we stop for the night. Next morning, 24th, we get up, the rain descending in torrents, and put on Jeff's gear and march 15 miles further, in mud and water knee deep. About 3 P. M. we arrived at this place, wet to the skin and shivering with cold. Fires were soon made, such fires as soldiers only know how to make, and our miseries were soon forgotten by memories of the past.

I suppose the fall of Wilmington will cause the spirit of discontent to spring up, but its heald not be so. No, let us look to the bright side; let the croaker and submissionist pass through Virginia, Eastern North Carolina, Georgia, or wherever the Yankees have been; let them look at the desolation that now reigns around; the rich man's house, the poor man's cottage, and even the Churches, razed to the ground. The neat little cottage on the hill, festooned with fragrant woodbine, where the birds of the forest love to carol, is swept away; the busy prattle of feet is no longer heard, nor the merry voice of the mocking bird; but the blackened chimneys, standing as lone sentinels to tell the weary passer by that the hand of the invader has been there. The owl keeps up his unearthly hoot to hasten the traveler on. Let those who wish to submit look at scenes like these, and if he has the spirit of man he will leave off this miserable spirit of croaking. Let him remember it is better to grin than to growl; and if our people at home would check the tide of invasion they must help the soldiers. Let the deserters be sent back to the army, and those who are not exempt or are exempt under false pretences are no better than deserters. Let the ranks be filled, let us nerve our hearts and strengthen our arms, and determine anew to be free. Let us lay our hands on the helm of the ship of state, and though the waves may beat furiously without, we fear them not, for we are united within.

Yours, &c.,
MARCUS BRUTUS.

Exchange of Prisoners.—Col. Hatch, the Confederate agent of exchange, had communication with the yankee authorities at Wilmington on Friday last, and we are glad to learn an agreement was made for the delivery of all the yankee prisoners in our hands in this State, at that point, at the earliest practicable moment.

Some three or four thousand were paroled in Goldsbrough on Saturday, and were to be sent yesterday morning to the enemy's lines. Seven or eight hundred passed this place from Salisbury, on Sunday morning, for the same point; and we learn that all that are here are to be sent through as soon as transportation can be furnished. Several hundred were sent off yesterday.

Raleigh Confederate.

Counterfeit.—The Editor of the Register has been shown, by Col. Taylor, commandant of the post at Mobile, a counterfeit Confederate note of the new issue, of the denomination of $100. It is lettered "D," dated Richmond, Feb. 17, 1864, and signed "T. L. Grayson, for Register," and "J. D. Walford, for Treasurer." The counterfeit is easily detected; the whole bill being fully an eighth of an inch smaller than the genuine, and the letters and figures being necessarily contracted. The impression on the spurious note is also much heavier and blacker.

Virginia and Negro Troops.—RICHMOND, Feb'y 27.—It is understod that the Virginia Legislature has passed a resolution instructing the Senators from that State in the Confederate Congress to vote for the bill putting negroes in the army.

WANTED,

HIDES to tan on shares. Terms, ½ Leather or its equivalent in cash. We can tan it in a very short time if desired by Hickie's patent. Persons wishing their Hides tanned can send them to our address to Egypt Depot, where they will be taken from and Leather delivered at our expense. Our address is Beaumont, Chatham County. W D WATSON & CO.

Reference Messrs. G W Williams & Co., Fayetteville.
Jan'y 25 4-3mpd

OFFICE POST QUARTERMASTER,
4th Congressional District, N. C.,
FAYETTEVILLE Feb 24, 1865

To the Patriotic Farmers of Cumberland, Harnett and Bladen Counties.

YOU are respectfully requested to bring your TITHE BACON to the Depots nearest this Post as soon as convenient, as it is very much needed at present. When the assessors make their appointments, you can show your receipts and have the estimates credited for the amount paid. Parties hauling over 12 miles to this town, will be paid 10 cts. per mile per hundred. I hope the farmers may bring in their Bacon promptly.

Capt. J. M. McGOWAN,
Capt. & Post Q. M.
Feb'y 25. 13-2tp-24